

3 PLO factions meet in Algiers

ALGIERS (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) three largest factions met in Algiers Tuesday for reconciliation talks that would end the four-year rift in the movement, Palestinian officials said. The talks would also determine if the Palestine National Council (PNC) will meet as planned on April 20 in Algiers, said the officials. The officials said the talks were expected to drag for a few days until the three groups agree to political, organisational and financial reforms in the PLO charter. The meeting grouped Khalil Wazir, deputy commander of the PLO forces, George Habash, Secretary-General of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and Nayef Hawatmeh, leader of Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

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Kohl endorses Mideast conference

BONN (AP) — Chancellor Helmut Kohl, meeting with Israeli President Chaim Herzog on Tuesday, pledged West German support for an international Middle East peace conference. Dr. Kohl, in a luncheon speech, said a conference of all major Middle Eastern parties is the only way to overcome conflict in the region. "We consider that an international conference aimed at peace in the Middle East is currently the only road to negotiations," the Christian Democratic chancellor said. Officials said the issue of West German weapons sales to the Middle East was not mentioned during Mr. Herzog's meeting with Dr. Kohl. They said Dr. Kohl pledged to urge Bonn's Common Market partners to play a greater role in Middle East peace efforts.

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Jordan launches protest at U.N.

UNITED NATIONS (Petra) — Jordan officially protested to the United Nations Security Council on Tuesday over Israel's violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories. Jordan's protest was contained in an official memo presented by Jordan's Permanent Representative to the U.N., Abdullah Salah. The memo said Israel seized 15,000 dunams on the occupied West Bank in January to build Israeli settlements there. Such practices by the Israeli authorities constitute a flagrant encroachment upon the international law, the memo said.

Majali appointed acting defence minister

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued on Tuesday appointing Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali as defence minister during the absence of Prime Minister and Defence Minister Zaid Rifai. Another Royal Decree was issued endorsing the new contractors law of 1987. The new law sets out the basis governing the classification of contractors and the fees which should be collected from each category.

Abdali has 20,000 new phone lines

AMMAN (J.T.) — Director General of the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) Mohammad Shabli Issa said on Tuesday that the TCC had completed a project whereby 20,000 telephone lines in Abdali area had become available, and were put into actual service. In a statement to the Arabic daily Al Rai, Mr. Issa said anyone from Abdali, Shamsani, Jabal Hussein and Sports City areas wishing to have a telephone could have it immediately without having to wait for his turn.

Fahd to visit Paris

PARIS (R) — Saudi Arabia's King Fahd will visit France next week at the invitation of President Francois Mitterrand, the president's office said Tuesday. The king will make the official visit on April 15 and 16 but an official at Saudi Arabia's Paris embassy said King Fahd's programme had not yet been finalised.

Ministry conducts study on hospitals

AMMAN (J.T.) — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh said Tuesday that the Health Ministry had started work on a detailed study aimed at identifying the actual costs of commissioning and maintaining Ministry of Health hospitals. Such a study, the first of its kind in Jordan, aims at identifying the actual cost of each government hospital separately, the minister said. In a statement to the Arabic daily Al Rai, Dr. Hamzeh said the study would contribute effectively to defining the budget of each hospital separately and help the ministry to identify all items of expenditure.

SLA man killed

TEL AVIV (R) — A militiaman from the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) was killed Tuesday by a roadside bomb in South Lebanon, Israeli sources said. The bomb exploded as an SLA foot patrol passed near the village of Falous.



His Royal Highness Prince Hassan, the Regent, visits an agriculture project in the Zarqa basin on Tuesday (Petra photo)

Regent visits Zarqa basin projects

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Tuesday toured Zarqa basin development projects and inspected progress of work aimed at boosting the agriculture, production in the area. The Regent, speaking to people working on the site, said the success of development projects in any field depended primarily

on cooperation and sincere coordination between the various parties involved.

Prince Hassan noted that ideal exploitation of land, water resources and manpower was bound to increase agricultural production.

He called on the public and private sectors to coordinate steps in order to realise optimum

returns on investment.

The Crown Prince said the social hierarchy, especially between the rural and urban populations, land fragmentation and misuse of cultivated land represented major impediments in efforts for further developing the agricultural sector. The government, he said, is keen to

(Continued on page 4)

Iraq reports checking new Iranian offensive near Basra

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — The Iran-Iraq war flared up suddenly on Tuesday with Iraq saying its troops had killed thousands of Iranians in checking a new Tehran offensive on their southern war front.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted a correspondent in the field as saying Iraq's forces were pursuing retreating Iranian troops.

The agency said the Al Ghadeer brigade of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards and the 21st brigade had been destroyed in the fighting.

The INA correspondent said Iraqi troops had surrounded the Iranians after the overnight attack was launched.

"The Iranian news agency

IRNA claimed that Iranian forces had killed or wounded over 2,600 Iraqis in their new Karbala-8 offensive and the thrust through Iraqi defences was continuing.

As Iran reported the new offensive, Iraq said its warplanes flew 700 kilometres to bomb oil installations on the island of Sirri near the Strait of Hormuz.

INA said other formations bombed offshore oilfields of Noruz, Sirus and Ardeshir in the northern part of Gulf. Noruz and Sirus also were attacked Monday.

In all, the agency said, the Iraqi jets flew 247 combat missions against Iranian targets.

Iraq launched a major offensive towards Iraq's second city of Basra in January, but little fighting had been reported from the area for several weeks.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, who presided over a meeting of his top military commanders in Baghdad two days ago, visited the northern city of Mosul on Tuesday to attend celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of the ruling Baath Arab Socialist Party.

A Reuters correspondent reported from Mosul that political observers there said the Iranian offensive was timed to coincide with the party's anniversary.

King heads for talks with Thatcher after meeting Martens in Brussels

Combined agency dispatches

BRUSSELS — His Majesty King Hussein left Brussels for London after holding talks with Belgian Premier Wilfried Martens and Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans and other Belgian officials on efforts for a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East through the convening of an international peace conference.

In London, the King was expected to hold talks with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and other British officials on the ongoing efforts for convening the proposed conference.

The King's talks were expected to give a new impetus to efforts for peace in the Middle East amid a flurry of diplomatic moves within and outside the region.

Mr. Tindemans told reporters after Tuesday's talks that Belgium, the current president of the 12-nation European Community (EC), had received permission

from the community to initiate contacts with Syria on the conference idea.

The EC froze ministerial contacts with Syria as part of largely symbolic sanctions against Damascus after Syria was implicated in an alleged plot to blow up an Israeli airliner at London airport.

Mr. Tindemans said the King briefed Mr. Martens on his visit to Damascus last week as part of his efforts to clear the way towards convening the proposed international conference on the Middle East.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the King explained to the Belgian leaders Jordan's stand towards the Arab-Israeli conflict and efforts that the Kingdom had launched towards convening the conference under U.N.

Mr. Tindemans told reporters after Tuesday's talks that Belgium, the current president of the 12-nation European Community (EC), had received permission

from the community to initiate contacts with Syria on the conference idea.

The King emphasised the importance of the role that Belgium could play within the EC in contributing towards efforts for convening the conference, Petra said.

The King first held a tete-a-tete meeting with Mr. Martens. The two leaders were later joined by Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibo Shaker, Planning Minister Taher Al Kanaana and Jordan's ambassador to Belgium, Hassan Abu Nameh. On the Belgian side, the talks were attended by Mr. Tindemans and the general secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs, Trade and Cooperation and the Belgian ambassador to Jordan.

The King later held a meeting with EC Commission President Jacques Delors.

Mr. Tindemans later told reporters Syria was showing flex-

ibility towards the idea of an international conference on peace in the Middle East.

Mr. Tindemans said he had received permission from the EC's member states to confer with Syria on the peace moves and implied he could visit Damascus later.

Arab foreign ministers who wound up a three-day meeting in Tunis on Monday, said they welcomed the EC's willingness to play a role in efforts for Middle East peace, in spite of Syrian misgivings.

Syria expressed anger at the EC sanctions imposed against it in November but also said it and other Arab states regarded the community's February call for peace talks as a positive step.

Mr. Tindemans said Tuesday: "I'm not saying everything is solved — far from it — but certain positions are showing flexibility ... I am thinking also

(Continued on page 4)

Rifai and Masri continue U.S. talks after urging active American role

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri held talks on Tuesday with U.S. Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger on efforts towards Middle East peace.

Mr. Rifai and Mr. Masri, who are here to seek an active American role in efforts towards convening an international conference on the Middle East under U.N. auspices, were scheduled to meet Vice-President George Bush and Secretary of State George Shultz later Tuesday.

The prime minister and foreign minister met with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy on Monday and urged the Reagan administration to support the proposal for an international conference to be attended by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and all concerned parties in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Mr. Rifai and Mr. Masri later met with Mr. Peter McPherson, the administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) for talks in American aid to Jordan and

the Palestinians living in the Israeli-occupied territories.

U.S. officials described the visit here by Mr. Rifai and Mr. Masri as a "sounding out operation" to see whether U.S. views had developed on an international peace conference.

Up to now, Washington has expressed willingness to consider the idea provided a conference would lead to direct Arab-Israeli peace talks and would have no decision-making powers.

There is no immediate sign of change in that position, and one official told Reuters, "We want to hear their views, and they want to hear ours."

Mr. Murphy said Tuesday that there was a desire among some of the nations of the Middle East to move towards a peace agreement but it was difficult to bring Israel and the Arab Nations together.

"It is a very dangerous situation. I don't think it is a hopeless situation. There is a desire out there to move ahead," Mr. Murphy told a House of Representatives committee hearing.

Mr. Rifai and Mr. Masri also were expected to discuss U.S.

military and economic aid to Jordan, which amounts to \$55 million this year. The Reagan administration has asked Congress for \$71 million for 1988.

The United States has a separate aid programme for the Palestinians who live in the West Bank. Assistance for the last two years totalled \$12 million.

Mr. Murphy said Mr. Rifai also had said Syria was interested in negotiations.

"They are persuaded there's a serious interest in Damascus in moving forward," Mr. Murphy said.

Mr. Murphy said the United States did not yet know whether Syria would actually be willing to sign a peace treaty with Israel or if it only sought a non-belligerency pact with the Jewish state.

Mr. Murphy reiterated the U.S. position that it would be willing to explore an international conference with the participation of the Soviet Union and the other Security Council members only if it led to direct Arab-Israeli talks. "We're not enthusiastic about it," he said.

(Continued on page 4)

Syrians deploy in Beirut camp

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Scores of Syrian troops marched into the battered Shatila Palestinian camp in Beirut on Tuesday in a bid to quell five months of fighting in the "camps war," witnesses quoted by news agencies said.

Dozens of Shatila residents clapped as more than 50 soldiers brandishing assault rifles and rocket-propelled grenade launchers walked past Shatila Amal militia siege lines into the small camp.

A senior Syrian officer, Colonel Abdul Salam Darghastani, led the men into Shatila's muddy alleyways, where he and other officers had already mapped out four positions.

More than 7,000 Syrian troops were sent into West Beirut in February but had not intervened to halt Syrian-backed Amal's conflict with the Palestinians.

Fighting in the "camps war" has killed nearly 900 people since September and that, 3,200 residents of Shatila also suffered critical shortages of food, water and medicine since Amal blockaded the camp on Oct. 29.

The Syrian reconnaissance of Shatila was agreed at a meeting between Syrian observers, Amal officials and representatives of the pro-Syrian Palestine National Salvation Front (PNSF).

Beirut radio stations said the accord provided for Syrian troops to deploy at four points around Shatila and to occupy at least one position at nearby Bourj Al Barajneh camp to guarantee freedom of movement for the refugees.

Reporters who walked about 75 metres inside Shatila on Tues-

day found scenes of devastation and squalor.

Rubble and debris blocked lanes muddled by water from broken pipes and littered with mounds of rotting garbage.

Refugees stared at the Syrian team from shell-pocked houses (Palestinians struggle to survive, page 2).

Rescue workers were due to evacuate wounded from Bourj Al Barajneh, home to about 12,000 refugees.

Plans for the evacuation were made after Kuwaiti relief supplies reached Shatila on Monday despite sniper fire which killed one man and wounded two others.

Political analysts said the latest Syrian moves indicated that Damascus, which supported Amal, was determined to end the bruising "camps war" in Beirut and South Lebanon.

The said the presence of Syrian troops at camp entrances would lift the blockades which Amal has imposed since October.

Shatila and Bourj Al Barajneh were reported calm overnight and Tuesday.

A senior Amal official, Haitham Jumaa, responded cautiously earlier when asked about a possible Syrian deployment, saying it would occur "when the Palestinians withdraw totally from all areas east of Sidon."

"Then Amal will lift its military siege," he said. "Amal has agreed to a total ceasefire, to lift the food blockade and to allow all humanitarian measures — but the Syrian deployment will come only with the withdrawal of guerrillas east of Sidon."

Reagan delays American move into new embassy in Moscow

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President Ronald Reagan announced Tuesday that American diplomats would not occupy the new embassy in Moscow until he is sure that it is secure from Soviet eavesdropping. And he said that the Soviets would not be allowed to move into their new office tower on a Washington hilltop until the Americans moves into the Moscow facility.

"The United States will not occupy our new embassy building in Moscow unless and until I can be assured that it is safe to move into a secure embassy environment," he said.

"Likewise, the Soviet Union will not be allowed to occupy their new embassy in Washington until a simultaneous move by both countries is possible."

He said the examination of U.S. security in Moscow would include an evaluation of the new embassy building to determine "whether it will ever be secure or whether it may be necessary to destroy and rebuild it."

In a related move, the United States accused the Soviet Union Tuesday of "a breach of the norms of diplomatic conduct" by infiltrating the U.S. embassy in Moscow with alleged spies and listening devices.

The formal protest was filed in the Soviet capital by Ambassador Jack Matlock and announced at the State Department by Charles Redman, the chief spokesman. "I don't think there are any doubts what our concerns are," Redman said.

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Majali, Judeh hold talks with Kuwaiti delegation

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs Abdul Wahhab Majali on Tuesday held talks with a visiting Kuwaiti delegation on means to improve bilateral relations in all fields of cooperation.

The delegation, headed by secretary general of the Kuwaiti cabinet, Khaled Ahmed Al Hamad, was also received by Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Sami Judeh who discussed with them scopes of cooperation between the two countries and ways of improving bilateral ties. Both meetings were

attended by the Cabinet's Secretary General Sa'd Edean Juma'a. Later in the day, the delegation met with president of the legislative bureau at the Prime Ministry Eisa Tammash. The two sides discussed prospects of increasing the scope of cooperation in legislation and administration-related affairs.

The delegation were also briefed by the economic councillor at the Prime Ministry Fayez Tarawneh on the administrative systems employed at the Prime Ministry regarding the economic sectors in the Kingdom.

Anani suggests measures to reactivate the economy

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A prominent Jordanian economist has painted a bright picture of the country's economy but has cautioned that unless prompt measures are taken to reactivate the business climate the current situation could well be aggravated.

Dr. Jawad Anani, president of the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), stressed that Jordan's economic growth rates over the past three decades were generally positive, except for certain phases characterised by low growth as a result of various external factors.

Jordan's present situation, therefore, should not be looked upon as an exception to the rule as overall the Kingdom's growth has been continuing at a stable rate, said Dr. Anani in a lecture he delivered upon an invitation from the Lions Alumni Club.

He underlined the need to promote economic administration and to depend primarily on domestic resources in an effort "to bring the economic cycle back on track." Promoting self-sufficiency and employment, coupled with moves to generate an increase in exports should be the focus of the government's economic policies, added Dr. Anani, who has held various ministerial posts.

He said that instead of subsidis-

ing imports, the government should support exports and that the private sector should shoulder its responsibilities side by side with the government.

Technical training, research

Dr. Anani said that priority should be given to technical training and scientific research which would ultimately reduce production costs and improve quality. Science and technology, however, can not be acquired without a political decision in that regard, he added.

The RSS president called for the introduction of incentives for the private sector with regard to employing private capital. The private sector, he said, should "impose its demands on the government instead of waiting for the government to furnish them with investment opportunities."

The lecture, which included a dinner at the Marriott Hotel, was followed by a debate in which members of the audience argued certain points in Dr. Anani's presentation, especially capital flight, turning Jordan into a free zone, government restrictions on the private sector and unemployment.

Several Jordanian economists, government officials and businessmen attended the lecture.

Regent, E. German minister of higher education discuss bilateral ties

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, on Tuesday received Minister of Higher Education in the German Democratic Republic (DDR) Hans Joachim Baume for discussions on means to bolster bilateral relations in higher education and scientific research.

The visiting minister, who arrived in Amman Sunday on a four-day visit to Jordan, extended greetings from the East German head of state Eric Honecker to the Regent.

The Regent briefed Professor Baume on Jordan's policy to qualify and train manpower as well as the Kingdom's drive to acquire advanced technology.

The meeting was attended by Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh and Minister of Higher Education Nasserredin Al Assad.

Hindawi briefs Baume

Earlier on Tuesday, Minister of Education Thounkan Hindawi held talks with Prof. Baume and briefed him on the Kingdom's educational policy as well as its plans to promote the education system in Jordan.

The visiting minister reviewed the country's educational policy which, he said, focuses on vocational training. Prof. Baume presented the Ministry of Education



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday holds talks with Minister of Higher Education in the German Democratic Republic Hans Joachim Baume (Petra photo).

with a number of books on industrial studies.

Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh also met with Prof. Baume and discussed with him prospects of enhancing bilateral relations in health fields and medical education.

Dr. Hamzeh reviewed the higher education programmes in the faculties of medicine at Jordan's universities. Prof. Baume expressed his country's willingness to further cooperate with the Jordanian Ministry of Health in terms of receiving medical cadres for training in East Germany.

On Monday, Prof. Baume was received by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs Abdul Wahhab Majali who discussed with him existing cooperation between Jordan and East Germany. Both sides emphasised the importance of further promoting the scopes of cooperation, especially in the cultural and academic fields as well as increasing the number of scholarships for either country in implementation of an agreement on cultural cooperation signed between the two countries.

Jaber details Israel's land seizures at U.N. commission in Nairobi

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan celebrated World Health Day on Tuesday, upholding this year's World Health Organisation (WHO) motto "immunisation, a chance for every child."

The two main concerns organisations in the Kingdom, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) are planning major immunisation campaigns in cooperation with the Ministry of Health. Their goal is maximum immunisation through vaccination against child-killing diseases.

UNICEF Regional Director for the Middle East and Africa Richard Reid said Tuesday that Jordan, along with most countries in the region, was already on the way of achieving the ultimate goal of total immunisation by the year 1990. He said Jordan is now on target with 80 per cent coverage.

"If we were able to achieve the goal of total immunisation by 1990, it would be the greatest public health breakthrough of the century," Mr. Reid said. Six child-killing diseases claim the lives of 600 children a day in Arab states and 8,000 all over the world.

Addressing reporters at the UNICEF headquarters here, Mr. Reid said that compared to the rest of the world, Arab countries were "the fastest" in the direction of realising the U.N. goal.

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"Countries of the region are ahead of any other grouping of

countries in the world," he said.

According to the UNICEF regional director, Jordan has the challenge of fighting two of the most fatal child diseases, measles and neo-natal tetanus which claim the lives of four to five children in Jordan every day.

"It is our duty to see that Jordan moves very swiftly towards the goal of immunisation for all children by 1990," he said, adding that "Jordan has an outstanding immunisation record."

Mr. Reid praised UNRWA which he said was doing "a superb job" in the field of immunisation. He pointed out that in the Palestinian refugee camps, the relief agency has been able to reach a record 95 per cent of immunisation, one of the highest in the world.

He added that his organisation is constantly cooperating with UNRWA and the World Health Organisation in coordination with the Ministry of Health.

WHO announced on Monday that it had decided to ban smoking in its Geneva headquarters. UNICEF, according to Mr. Reid, is planning to follow suit and said that the staff committee in the Amman headquarters will be discussing banning smoking in most of its offices.

The deputy director of UNRWA affairs in Jordan delivered a speech on Tuesday in which he reviewed his agency's services to Palestinian refugees in the country. He said that much more can still be done in the area of health care and vaccination. There are nearly 835,000 Palestinian refugees in Jordan.

Official outlines UNESCO's programmes for Arab World

AMMAN (Petra) — The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) on Tuesday outlined its development programmes for Arab countries. The organisation's general coordinator in the Arab World Mohammed Kazem presented the outline during a group meeting held with cultural attaches of Arab embassies to the Kingdom.

During the meeting, Dr. Kazem reviewed the projects drawn up by the organisation for 1987 and 1988 as well as UNESCO's long-term plans to improve education, culture and science in Arab states.

Dr. Kazem, who is director of UNESCO's Amman regional office for education, said that the organisation plans, in cooperation with Arab countries, to bring into effect a special scheme to spread primary education and eradicate illiteracy by the year 2000.

Along the way schoolchildren, college and university students, employees, villagers and farmers have kept the walkers company. During the Amman leg, close to a 1,000 individuals were present to support the walkers and raise money for the society.

The walk, which will last 10 days, hopes to raise JD 50,000 for the purpose of establishing a charity fund for needy neurological patients at the Palestine Hospital in Amman.

Public support

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Queen inaugurates Jordan's first national centre for mental care, rehabilitation

Comprehensive centre to offer free treatment, training and after care to psychiatric patients, drug addicts and alcoholics

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

FUHAIS — Jordan's first-ever comprehensive National Centre for Mental Health (NCMH) was inaugurated by Her Majesty Queen Noor on Tuesday, heralding a new era of development in the field of the treatment, care and rehabilitation offered to psychiatric and mentally ill patients in the Kingdom.

Situated among the green hills and fields of Fuhais, the JD 2.5 million centre, with a capacity of 200 beds, will also be providing medical training for staff working with psychiatric patients, including specialised doctors, nurses and auxiliary nurses. The centre, as of the beginning of this year, embarked on a three-year and a two-year psychiatric programme for resident physicians and psychiatric nurses respectively.

Crowds of people lined the main streets leading to the national hospital to cheer Queen Noor who has been a main driving force behind the establishment of the modern psychiatric centre for integrated care and treatment.

In 1981 while on a visit to the Fuhais psychiatric hospital, which lies adjacent to the new centre, Queen Noor urged the concerned authorities to speed up efforts to establish a specialised institution to deal with all areas related to mental and psychiatric ailments, including treatment, follow-ups on discharged patients, training programmes and vocational and social rehabilitation facilities.

Her Majesty's aides say that the Queen has been following up on the issue ever since. According to Ministry of Health sources, a number of actions were taken following the Queen's visit to the Fuhais hospital in 1981 and in accordance with her directives. These measures included setting up the 200-bed hospital, sending six resident physicians on fellowships to Britain to specialise in psychiatry and preparing a scientific national programme for training medical and nursing staff for the new hospital.

Detoxification ward

In addition to the comprehen-



Her Majesty Queen Noor Tuesday patronises the opening of Jordan's first comprehensive National Centre for Mental Health (Petra photo).

sive range of facilities for mentally ill and psychiatric patients, the national centre also includes Jordan's first detoxification ward which has 50 beds for drug addicts and alcoholics.

The detoxification ward was set up on suggestions made by the National Committee for Combating Narcotics which includes various official and private sector representatives. The committee is supported by Queen Noor, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh. The NCMH's other operational units include two sections for male and female psychiatric patients, each with 50-beds, a 25-bed department for children and two other units for mentally disturbed male and female patients.

The Fuhais local band struck up a tune as Queen Noor cut a white ribbon to signal the official opening and start of operations at the three-storey national centre. Indicators and studies state that 10 per cent of Jordan's population is in need of some kind of psychiatric health care at one time or another. Out of this total 30,000 Jordanians are estimated to suffer from schizophrenia or mania and an equal number are mentally retarded, and 15,000 suffer from epilepsy. The remainder of this 10 per cent are citizens suffering from ailments resulting from social problems and other psychological and neurological

disturbances, including anxiety, delinquency and depression.

The national psychiatric hospital is part of three other institutions working in this field under supervision of the NCMH. The NCMH functions under the umbrella of the Health Ministry and the National Committee for Psychiatric Health Care (NCPHC). The three other NCMH arms are the Al Karamah Hospital for Chronic Mental Disturbances (100 beds), the former Fuhais hospital for psychiatric patients which includes a 50-bed forensic department and a mental retardation section with a 40-bed capacity. There are 12 other specialised psychiatric clinics spread throughout the Kingdom which offer psychiatric health services, supervision and care to patients.

To date, government-run schemes functioning through the NCMH have allocated 390 beds for the mentally ill. The Armed Forces' Royal Medical Services have another 60 beds for the treatment of psychiatric patients.

The NCPHC, founded in 1983, is responsible for determining the policy of psychiatric health care programmes in Jordan. It groups psychiatrists and psychologists from the Health Ministry, the Royal Medical Services, the University of Jordan, the Jordanian Psychiatrists Society and the private sector.

In a key-note address delivered

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Masri praises relations with China

AMMAN (Petra) — Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri Tuesday praised Chinese-Jordanian relations describing them as both friendly and strong. In a cable he sent to the foreign minister of the Peoples Republic of China on the tenth anniversary of establishing Jordanian-Chinese relations, Mr. Masri expressed Jordan's keenness to make every possible effort to bolster ties of cooperation between the two friendly countries. Mr. Masri added that Jordan greatly appreciates China's active contributions and support for just Arab causes as well as the international efforts, aimed at establishing peace in the Middle East.

Decree okays land appropriation law

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued Tuesday endorsing the law of appropriation, recently passed by the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament. The new law defines the bases of land and property appropriation as well as means of solving land disputes between owners. Articles in the law provide for means and methods of paying tax to the treasury on appropriation. Another decree issued on Tuesday endorsed a regulation concerning fees for road advertising signs posted outside the boundaries of municipalities.

Fayez meets with Iraqi ambassador

AMMAN (J.T.) — Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akef Al Fayez Tuesday received Iraqi Ambassador to Jordan Ghafel Jassem, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported. Petra gave no details about the talks.

Committee prepares for seminar on Aqaba

AQABA (Petra) — A preparatory committee entrusted with making the necessary arrangements to hold a seminar on Aqaba, the past and the present, to be held later this month under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan met on Tuesday under the chairmanship of President of the Aqaba Region Authority Bassam Qaqish. The committee discussed final arrangements for holding the seminar and agreed who will take part in the seminar and the working papers to be discussed. The working papers deal with transport, ports, tourism, science and technology and trade and industry.

Nadim hospital to treat ministry patients

MADABA (J.T.) — The Health Ministry has reached agreement with the Al Nadim Hospital in Madaba to transfer any patients which cannot be accommodated at the government hospital in the city. The agreement is in line with the Health Ministry's new policy to utilise empty beds in private hospitals and at the same time to ease pressure on government hospitals, in accordance with a recently introduced health scheme covering all citizens. The 150-bed Al Nadim Hospital was inaugurated by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on March 25. The JD 2.5 million hospital has three operating rooms and four outpatient clinics as well as a laboratory, an X-ray unit and other essential facilities.

Jordan attends technical talks on industry

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is taking part in the meetings of the Arab technical consultative committee on industry which opened in Baghdad on Tuesday. Dr. Akram Karmoul, advisor at the Ministry of Planning, is representing Jordan at the meeting which will discuss subjects on the agenda of the Arab Organisation for Industrial Development, due to be held in Tunis in 1989. Among the main topics, he said, are inter-Arab trade exchange, marketing the products of joint Arab projects, developing a pan-Arab transport system and laws on industrial investment.

Man receives 3½ years for possession

AMMAN (Petra) — The general military governor on Tuesday ratified a military court ruling which sentenced Abdullah Abdulhah to three and a half years imprisonment and fined him JD 350 for possession of hashish.

Charity marchers lose ground, slow their pace due to aches and pains

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Doctors have advised Vicki Dakessian and Ali Pharaon to rest more and walk less in the coming days of their journey to cross Jordan from the northern border point of Ramtha to Aqaba.

Mrs. Nadia Al Alami, coordinator of the charity march across Jordan, told the Jordan Times that Vicki's leg is infected and he has developed a rash, while Ali's knee has begun to give him some trouble.

Despite their aches and pains "Vicki and Ali's spirits are high and they are determined to finish the 420 kilometre walk," Mrs. Alami said.

Beginning an hour later than their usual 7:00 a.m. start, Vicki and Ali yesterday passed through the village of Al Hwaj, to Shobak bridge and

onto the Desert Highway. On the way they were accompanied by members of Nadi Ma'an. They however, were not able to reach Ma'an, their scheduled destination for that night. Vicki and Ali covered 40 kilometres on the seventh day of their trip, bringing the total distance lost over the past three days to 24 kilometres. They will walk the 'lost' kilometres on the last day of the march, scheduled to end in Aqaba on April 10.

The walk began in Ramtha on April Fool's Day. The initiator of the idea, Vicki, said he wanted to raise money for the Society for the Care of Neurological Patients in an original way and said he would do this by walking from the furthest point north to the furthest point south, "an unattempted feat in Jordan."

Vicki who has a masters in electrical engineering from the University of Salford in England

was joined by Ali, a mechanical engineering graduate from the University of Arlington, Texas, for the entire distance. Halim Abu Rahme, who has a masters in marketing from the University of Arizona, is walking with Vicki and Ali for three quarters of the distance.

Public support

Along the way schoolchildren, college and university students, employees, villagers and farmers have kept the walkers company. During the Amman leg, close to a 1,000 individuals were present to support the walkers and raise money for the society.

AOAS cites 'financial problems' behind dismissal of 32 staffers

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Arab Organisation for Administrative Sciences (AOAS), an affiliate of the Arab League, has dismissed nearly half of its staff citing financial troubles. The affected employees described the decision as "arbitrary, shocking and irresponsible."

The 17-year-old organisation took the decision on Thursday, after a special committee was established to look into "the status of employees."

The 32 employees who were laid-off were given the dismissal notice on Saturday, effective Sunday.

AOAS General Director Nasser Sayegh told the Jordan Times that he had no choice but to dismiss the employees in order for the organisation to survive. The organisation is financed by contributions from Arab states.

"We had to choose between keeping the staff without being able to function or cutting the staff and remaining in operation," Mr. Sayegh said. "If I hadn't done that," he added, "I wouldn't have been able to pay salaries to my staff for two months."

Mr. Sayegh said that he opted to dismiss the 32 employees while the organisation was still able to afford severance pay and payments for leave which had not been taken. "Had we waited any longer, they would have been laid-off without their dues, including social security."

Mr. Sayegh said that of all Arab League member states, only Jordan and Saudi Arabia have fulfilled their financial commitments to the organisation this year. "So far, we have received only 15 per cent of the pledges."

Saudi national, the decision was taken after a special committee was established to assess the staff and determine those who would have to be dismissed.

He said that the selection process was done without regard to nationalities, sex or religion. He added, however, that the organisation did not dismiss any of the staff appointed by member states.

"We only dismissed those who were contracted by us here," he said. The organisation, he added, took other measures including reducing expenditure and urging Arab states to fulfill their financial commitments. "These steps were taken to enhance the organisation's credibility," Mr. Sayegh said.

One of the sacked employees told the Jordan Times that the decision was "a classic case of bad management. 'How come they realised they have financial problems only this week?'" she asked. According to her account, following the organisation's last council conference two weeks ago — during which Mr. Sayegh was re-elected as director general — "we were told the organisation had some financial problems."

"Two days later, a committee was established to discuss ways to solve the problem. Then all of a sudden we found ourselves on the street. This cannot be justified on any grounds," she said. "The irony," she continued, "is that it was done by the very organisation which was established to promote excellent managerial practices in the Arab World."

'Costly conference'

Criticising the organisation's management, another employee interviewed by the Jordan Times blamed the organisation's spending policies which he described as "irresponsible."

"I think any organisation having such financial problems should have refrained from excessive and unnecessary spending," the employee said. He was referring to an international conference convened by the organisation

in September of last year which he alleged cost the organisation nearly \$600,000. "This was unnecessary. We could have managed with it," he said, contending that the AOAS allocates in its annual budget about \$500,000 for airplane tickets for conference participants and other travel purposes.

He also mentioned the publication of a book combining the working papers of that conference which he claimed had cost \$85,000. He further contended that Mr. Sayegh had employed at least two people in administrative positions as late as last November.

In his interview with the Jordan Times, Mr. Sayegh declined to release figures on the organisation's spending or budget. Later attempts for a comment from Mr. Sayegh on Tuesday were also unsuccessful.

Most of those laid off are Jordanian nationals with the exception of two Lebanese, one Sudanese, one Iraqi and one Moroccan. It is estimated that the organisation's original staff of nearly 68 used to take about \$75,000 a month, according to a member of the organisation's staff.

Contacted by the Jordan Times, the Foreign Ministry's head of bilateral relations and political affairs ambassador Yassin Istanbulli said the ministry was "not directly concerned with the incident." He explained that the move by the AOAS "was not coordinated with the ministry," adding that "we are only concerned with the diplomatic aspects of Arab organisations and not technical and administrative issues."

Mr. Awni Khasawneh, head of the legal department at the ministry, said that his department was not officially contacted regarding the matter.

The AOAS, established in 1969 by an Arab League resolution, moved its headquarters from Cairo to Amman following Egypt's Camp David peace treaty with Israel.

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Targeting Palestinians

AS THE U.S. government plans to deport seven Palestinians accused of belonging to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), including a Kenyan-born wife of one of them, we witness once again people "living in the land of freedom" harassed because of their origin and beliefs. Being an Arab in the U.S., a Palestinian in particular, has become practically a crime. Some Americans, spurred by a relentless drive to distort the Arabs' image, have made it appear that all Arabs are "terrorists" and pose a potential threat to the internal security of the U.S.

The deportation of these alleged criminals is not for any terrorist activity they did or plan to do. The U.S. government wants them out of the country because of their membership of a Palestinian guerrilla group and for distributing this group's literature which "advocates world communism." How their activities pose a threat to U.S. security remains a mystery.

A lengthy FBI investigation failed to turn up the slightest bit of evidence of any unlawful activity on the part of these people, and they have only been charged on technical violations of immigration laws. However, the U.S. administration has been using the provisions of the Immigration and Naturalisation Act of 1952 to justify its actions. The act, also known as the McCarran-Walter Act, was enacted at the height of the anti-communism hysteria during the McCarthy era. It enables the government to deport immigrants, suspected of or advocating views labelled as communist, for seeking to overthrow the government.

Even some Americans, as noted in a Los Angeles Times editorial on April 2, have objected to these arrests on the grounds that they violate the first and fifth amendments to the U.S. constitution.

Palestinians in the U.S. and many Arab Americans are involved in non-violent activities to air their beliefs and their need for an identity. Apparently, some people in the U.S. administration have decided to target individuals supporting Palestinian rights or challenging American policy in the Middle East, charging them with terrorism. Last October, Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) activist Alex Odeh was murdered. Many others, Arab or otherwise, supporting Palestinian rights, from California to Massachusetts, have become targets for slander and abuse. Harassing people of Arab origin or supporting Arab causes will not stop the Palestinian people from asking for their rights. The arrest of these nine individuals has only meant that the U.S. administration has once again kowtowed to those organisations waging a campaign against the Arabs in general, and Palestinians in particular.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Prince advocates reforms

PRINCE Hassan Monday called on educationalists to lay down a clear and integrated concept of an educational policy in Jordan, and stressed that this concept is the country's means to deal with the basic challenges that confront us and that have confronted us over the past two decades. After reviewing the process of education in the Kingdom over the past 30 years, Prince Hassan underlined the need for directing our attention towards quality rather than quantity in education, so that we can handle the economic circumstances in the coming stage and effectively employ manpower at our disposal. Prince Hassan was speaking in the course of his tour of different regions of the Kingdom, in further demonstration of the Jordanian leadership's concern over care that should be given to citizens and their needs, providing for their education and training so that can be useful for their nation. A close study of Jordan's educational process can reveal the fact that this country has made large strides in educating its citizens; but one indeed should not be satisfied with what has been achieved, and should rather seek better quality and seek solutions for problems that the country now confronts. Prince Hassan's tours and his meetings with educationalists in Jordan are aimed at raising the educational level in the country to new heights, capable of providing a better tool for national development and prosperity.

Al Dustour: King continues peace tour

KING Hussein is now on the third leg of his four nation tour, trying to secure greater support for the proposed international conference on the Middle East. The King's talks in Europe are essential in this endeavour specially after European nations have voiced support for the conference. The first positive outcome of the King's current tour in Europe came from Belgium's foreign minister in which he reiterated the European stand vis-a-vis the Arab-Israeli conflict, following a two day meeting by European Community countries foreign Ministers. The statement coincided with a declaration by the Arab League following its council's meeting in Tunis in which Arab foreign ministers urged Arab countries to convene an Arab summit meeting and an international Middle East conference. As the King is spearheading efforts for convening the international conference, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai is holding talks in the United States with American administration officials to persuade them to the need for holding the proposed international conference. Belgium's Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans has announced his intention of touring Middle Eastern countries before the end of this month, in a further manifestation of Europe's deep concern over ending the Arab-Israeli conflict and achieving peace. All these activities point to one direction: That the international conference will eventually be held regardless of present obstacles laid in its path by the United States and Israel.

Sawt Al Shaab: League calls for summit

The Arab League Monday issued a statement which expressed Arab countries support for convening an international conference and efforts being made for holding an Arab summit meeting to secure a consensus on a joint Arab action. The Arab foreign ministers who reached the resolutions at a meeting in Tunis have no doubt benefited from the present favourable international situation. Europe's support for the proposed conference and King Hussein's successful efforts to muster as much backing as possible for the conference. The Arab League's statement showed that the Arab countries have based their resolution on similar ones taken at the Islamic summit in Kuwait, the Brussels declaration and the earlier statements of the Non-aligned Movement. For the first time the Arab League openly condemned Iran's aggression on Iraq and voiced concern over the navigation safety in the Gulf region.

Fresh sparks in the Aegean powder kegs

There is age-old hostility between Greece and Turkey over boundaries and possession of more than 3,000 islands in the Aegean Sea. Warlike gestures in the past week or so are explained by Robert Manthner, recently in the area.

THE clash between Greece and Turkey over oil-drilling rights in the Aegean, which recently led the two countries to the brink of military conflict, is only the latest of a series of long-standing territorial disagreements which have their roots in the break-up of the Ottoman empire.

A tense political climate, fuelled by the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in 1974, the unilateral declaration of the self-styled Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus in 1983 and Greece's firm opposition to Turkey's declared intention to become a member of the European Community, has undermined any attempts to find agreed solutions.

The legal and technical arguments deployed by both sides have merely become pretexts for fostering a permanent atmosphere of hostility which can be transformed into a conflagration by the merest spark.

Quite apart from the arguments about the continental shelf and territorial waters, Ankara and Athens are locked into constant disputes over air spaces and the militarisation of Greek islands in the Aegean.

When one quarrel is temporarily defused, it is transferred to another issue, making it clear that only a fundamental solution of the major bilateral political problems such as Cyprus can hope to bring any permanent improvement in the atmosphere.

The discovery of oil in the Aegean since the 1970s has added yet another dimension to the problem.

The immediate cause of the latest flare-up is a difference over the validity of the Berne Agreement of 1976, which was concluded by the two countries as a way of putting an end to a previous conflict over oil exploration activities.

The Berne Agreement clearly states that "Athens and Ankara undertake to abstain from any initiative or act relating to the continental shelf of the Aegean Sea which might prejudice negotiations."

Such discussions on the delimitation of the continental shelf did start but were broken off in 1981 — by the Turks, according to Athens, by Mr. Andreas Papandreu, the Greek prime minister, after the election of his Socialist government in the same year, according to Ankara. As a result, says the Greeks, the Berne Agreement is no longer operative.

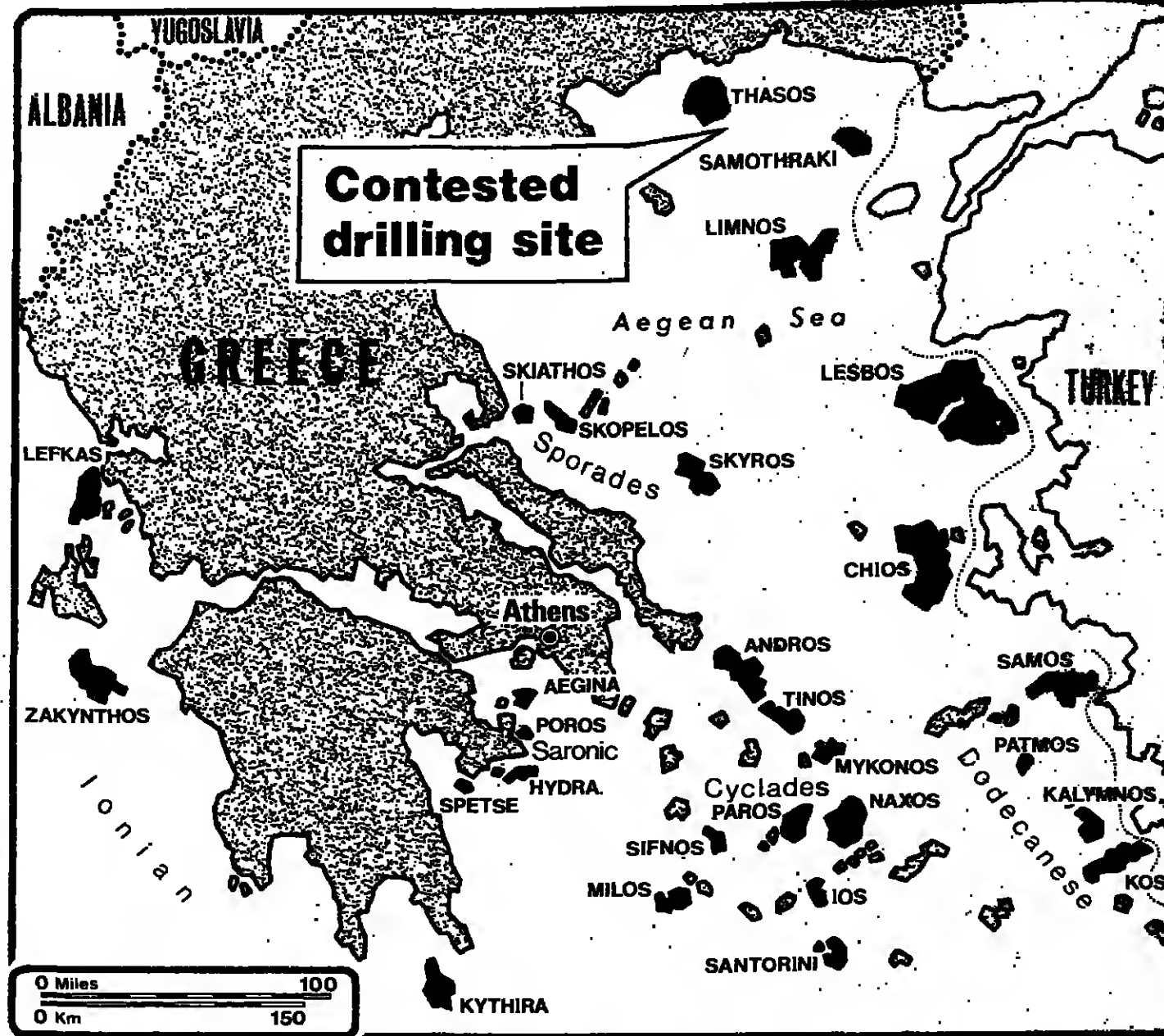
This interpretation has been used by the Greeks as a justification for their resumption of oil-drilling and exploration in the north Aegean in what they consider to be their own territorial waters and on their own continental shelf.

The North Aegean Petroleum Company (NAPCO), a Canadian-led international consortium, has been producing about 27,000 barrels a day, most of it sold to the Greek state, from the Prinos oil-field, west of Thassos, off the northern Greek coast.

Its plans to prospect east of the same island, nearer the Turkish coast, set off a series of events which, typically, were interpreted completely differently by Athens and Ankara.

The Greek government, claiming it was concerned about the company's activities in such a sensitive region for Greek-Turkish relations, over which it wanted to have a veto, tabled a bill which would give it a majority stake in NAPCO.

The Turks, on the other hand, saw the move as an escalation of the dispute over drilling rights because nationalisation would give the company the official



backing of the Greek government for its activities.

Not unnaturally, the company also protested vigorously and said it would go ahead regardless of its planned drilling east of Thassos.

It was persuaded to change its mind only after the sabre-rattling and the despatch to the area of the Turkish oil research vessel Sismik-1, escorted by an impressive array of warships.

Behind the dispute lies Tur-

key's deeply-felt dissatisfaction with the existing situation — the result of its defeat in World War I — in which it is hemmed in by a long line of Greek islands just off its coastline.

Greece claims that the estimated 3,000 islands of the Aegean, all but a small handful of which are Greek, have their own continental shelves and that this is enshrined in the Geneva convention of 1958 and the Law of the Sea.

The Greeks also claim that they are entitled by international law to extend their territorial limits from six to 12 miles, but have not, so far, attempted to apply this rule.

Ankara refuses to accept that the islands near its coast have their own continental shelf and have not signed the international conventions which Athens has invoked in support of its claims. Recourse to the International Court in The Hague, as the

Greeks have proposed, has been rejected by Ankara because of disagreement over the legal basis on which the submission should be made.

It seems highly unlikely, in any case, that a purely legal judgment could satisfactorily solve what is essentially a highly-complicated political problem between two countries which have never been able to overcome their age-old hostility — Financial Times feature.

Autonomy offer ends rebellion of Nicaraguan Indians

By Andrew Selsky
The Associated Press

PUERTO CABEZAS, Nicaragua — An Amnesty and offer of limited autonomy by the leftist Sandinista government has broken the rebellion by Nicaraguan Miskito, Sumo and Rama Indian rebels who have been fighting alongside the contras.

Every month, dozens of Indians abandon the rebel ranks, with many going back to their ancestral villages, according to residents.

Some return because they miss their homes, while others don't see a future in the contra fight. Some say that many of the causes that led them to rebel against the Sandinistas in the first place are disappearing.

The change is most visible in Puerto Cabezas, a sleepy tropical port and trading centre 386 kilometres northeast of Managua.

At the height of the rebellion, residents say, Sandinista army trucks regularly brought in from the surrounding jungle the bodies of government soldiers killed fighting the Indians in the area.

Now, some of these same Indians, pistols tucked into their

waistbands, confidently walk the paved streets exchanging greetings with government soldiers strolling by.

Under the 1985 general amnesty law, the former rebels are allowed to keep their weapons and are permitted to join the local Sandinista militia, a paramilitary force that helps the regular army fight the contras, the name given to the rebels.

A 15-page draft law proposes setting up a regional government for the 180,000 Indians, Blacks and Creoles who have traditionally inhabited a 75-mile strip along Nicaragua's Atlantic seaboard, known as the Miskito coast, complete with a regional legislature.

The area has been isolated by virtually roadless jungles for centuries. The culture of the Atlantic coast, where English and Indian dialects are the main languages and Protestantism the main religion, has always been separate from Spanish-speaking, Catholic, Western Nicaragua.

The proposed law empowers the regional government to levy taxes and take measures to preserve ethnic cultures but very little else. Economic and political policy, defence and law enforcement

will continue to be handled by the central government in Managua, the Nicaraguan capital.

No law is still being discussed by the national assembly and no date has been given for its implementation.

Although not very happy with it, the Indians of the region consider the autonomy plan a beginning.

The Mosquitia coast, as the Atlantic region is called, used to stretch halfway into neighbouring Honduras. It was discovered by the British in the 17th century, who set up a local king to rule the area.

Britain lost the northern part to Honduras in 1860 and ceded the southern part to Nicaragua in 1895. Currently, the region's population is made up of Miskito, Sumo and Rama Indians, Blacks who fled from slavery on the Caribbean islands offshore, and "Mestizos" or people of mixed race.

Although many traditionally went to Managua to work in tourist spots where their knowledge of English was an advantage, successive Nicaraguan governments had left the Mosquitia coast Indians alone.

The Indians, in turn, mostly ignored the central government. They also ignored the Sandinista revolution that in 1979 overthrew President Anastasio Somoza, a rightist pro-U.S. dictator whose family had ruled Nicaragua for 42 years.

The Indians rebelled in 1981 against efforts by the new Sandinista government to impose Marxist neighbourhood defence committee and other regimentation. The elders complained the new policy was undermining their traditional authority.

The Sandinista government, considering the Indians a threat to national security, forcibly resettled thousands of them in "relocation camps" inland. Thousands more fled to join the contras.

Many of those who fled north into Honduras formed Kisan, an organisation which at one time had an estimated 2,500 armed men fighting alongside the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, the biggest contra fighting group.

Those who fled south formed Misursata, another organisation with an estimated 500 fighters that worked with Arde, a smaller

contra group with secret bases in Costa Rica.

The Sandinistas began reversing their policy towards the Miskito coast and in 1985 Interior Minister Tomas Borge publicly admitted the government had committed "a grievous error."

Misursata has gradually disappeared and Kisan is said to be down to about 500 men. Neither group has responded to the new autonomy plan.

Reynaldo Reyes, a Miskito Indian, is one of those who has returned. Until October, 1985, he was a Kisan intelligence officer. Now, he is said in a recent interview, he is prepared to fight the rebels to defend the autonomy plan, which he calls the only hope for Nicaragua's Indians.

"I'm asking my former companions to put down their arms and instead to use their brains to discuss the autonomy proposal. Autonomy is the only way that peace can come to the Atlantic coast," he said.

Although he says the proposed autonomy isn't very extensive, Reyes claims the Sandinistas have "good intentions" towards the region.

"A Sandinista autonomy would be better than what we Indians of the coast have had for centuries," he said. "Before, we were always forgotten and brushed aside by previous governments."

Noting that many Indian tribes in the Americas have been annihilated or have lost their cultures, Reyes said the fact that the tribes of the Miskito coast will be assured by law of retaining theirs is a milestone in itself.

"Millions of Indian eyes around the world will be watching us, to see how effective our autonomy will be," he said.

Reyes said Kisan for peace, made up of former rebels allied with the Sandinistas, has about 300 armed men who patrol the jungle, piney woods and swamps of the region.

Dorotea Wilson, a Black Sandinista and a leader in the region, said the government encourages defectors Kisan fighters to keep their weapons, and will continue to do so after the autonomy statute is signed.

"We do not want them to turn in their arms after the statute becomes law," she said. "We want them to defend their rights. They are indigenous militia."

King heads for talks with Thatcher

(Continued from page 1)
about the Syrian position," Mr. Tindemans told journalists.

He added it was clear there could be no conference without Syria since Israel's occupation of the Golan Heights would be discussed, and "contacts were imperative."

Mr. Tindemans said his planned visit on behalf of the EC to Jordan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Israel, announced last weekend, was a "first step" and implied a visit to Damascus was possible

later.

"We must see now how things evolve and then the Belgian presidency (of the EC) will have to make up its mind," he said.

EC foreign ministers backed the idea of an international peace conference last February and Mr. Tindemans said King Hussein said a role for the community in helping remove remaining difficulties standing in the way of the forum.

"Syria was mentioned in this context," he said.

On Palestinian representation at the conference Mr. Tindemans quoted King Hussein as saying the problem was for the Arabs to solve themselves.

The King told a group of Dutch editors on Tuesday that he was confident the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) would take part fully as a representative of the Palestinian people.

The King said he was "full of hope" that a conference grouping all parties in the Middle East conflict would be a success.

Rifai and Masri continue U.S talks

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Murphy said the Reagan administration would pursue a peace agreement during its last 20 months in office and was not interested in preserving the status quo until the next president took office in 1989.

"The administration doesn't accept the next two years as a tiding-up period," Mr. Murphy

said. "We've had for the past two years a very quiet but steady pursuit of the peace process."

He said he was encouraged by his Middle East trip in January, which included talks in Israel and Jordan.

Mr. Murphy also said he was convinced Syria was doing all it could to obtain the release of American hostages held in Lebanon.

Violent protests rock W. Bank

(Continued from page 1)

Palestinian sources told Reuters the prisoners were on a self-imposed water and salt diet to protest against deteriorating conditions after new prison services commissioner took office this year.

Lawyers and supporters of the

prisoners say they are often beaten, tear-gassed and stripped naked for searches.

Periodic strikes are held by Arab prisoners to demand better food and less overcrowding in cells where most inmates sleep on mattresses unrolled on floors at night because of lack of space for beds.

Regent visits Zarqa basin

(Continued from page 1)

overcome these obstacles by exploring means and ways for proper solutions.

Earlier, Prince Hassan headed a meeting at Baqa'a for the Ministry of Agriculture's projects department.

Minister of Agriculture Marwan Al-Hmoud, Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaleel Haj Hassan, Minister of Public Works Mahmoud Al-Hawamdeh and Minister of Interior Rajai Dajani attended the meeting.

During the meeting, Adnan Arafat, head of the Agriculture Projects Department, outlined the department's work and allocation of funds included in the 1986-90 five-year development plan.

Queen opens mental health centre

(Continued from page 3)

during the opening ceremony, Dr. Hameed expressed appreciation to the Queen for patronising the inauguration of the centre and for her ongoing support to further develop the Kingdom's health services.

"This new centre is an actual response to an urgent need. It is a hospital where all our national efforts will collaborate to offer help to all citizens who need psychiatric care as well as providing treatment and rehabilitation for drug addicts," the minister said.

The hospital's director, Dr. Ihsan Ra'fat, said the centre represented a "landmark for the development of psychiatric health care in the East Bank of Jordan."

Dr. Ra'fat was referring to the Israeli occupation of the West Bank, when the psychiatric hospital in Bethlehem could no longer provide treatment for residents of Jordan's East Bank. Following the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, the Fuhais hospital was set up.

Psychiatric health care, he said, was part of the primary health care programmes. "We look forward to spreading these services to all people throughout the Kingdom. The national hospital and the national committee are at a starting point to achieve a local scheme for psychiatric care under which officials and citizens will join hands," said Dr. Ra'fat, who has been working in this field for the past 14 years.

Queen Noor later toured the

hospital's various wards, the three specialised clinics, the laboratory and the units for the treatment of patients through medicine, electrocution, individual and group therapy, conduct rehabilitation, and vocational and training workshops.

Following the tour, Queen Noor chaired a closed meeting to assess the centre's preliminary performance, the problems facing it and appropriate solutions.

In order to overcome a shortage in the number of specialised doctors and psychiatric nurses, the meeting suggested cooperating with concerned international organisations and foreign countries in areas related to training programmes.

At the same time, two of the six resident doctors who were sent abroad by the centre for specialisation will be returning in August and September after completing specialised programmes in psychiatry.

In order for the hospital to meet the needs of a full-occupancy, a rough estimate of 30 specialised doctors, 6 psychologists and 40 psychiatric nurses are needed. At present, 16 psychiatrists and 14 resident physicians are working there in addition to 12 registered nurses and 56 auxiliary nurses who are getting in-house training.

However, with the centre's training courses for both doctors and nurses specialising in psychiatry, the problem of such shortage is expected to be solved

in the coming two to four years. The gathering also focused attention on the country's awareness about the centre's services, which are free of charge to all needy patients, and the role of the community in spreading awareness and helping psychiatric patients.

Queen Noor suggested the formation of a friends of the NCMH society to gather information and assist in creating an environment that is conducive to recovery and rehabilitation. The meeting also stressed the importance of maintaining a strong link between treatment, care and rehabilitation inside psychiatric hospitals.

Asked to elaborate on the activities of the centre's detoxification ward, Dr. Ra'fat told the Jordan Times that "drug addiction can be treated and stopped provided the user is totally convinced of the necessity to do so."

At present, there are two male addicts receiving treatment at the unit. Names of the patients are withheld and they remain inside the ward for a period ranging between 4 to 6 weeks, after which they are discharged. Later they are kept at a rehabilitation centre which offers a two-year follow-up for each case.

"Of course, all services are free of charge and include periodical visits to the patient's parents, who should be notified about the latest developments regarding their son or daughter," said Dr. Ra'fat.

سكنا من الجول

Health project for elderly Palestinian refugees in Jordan emphasises traditional family role

UNRWA feature

UNRWA's Health Department is backing a plan to improve the quality of life for elderly Palestinian refugees, one third of whom have spent nearly 40 years in camps, waiting for a solution to the Palestine issue.

Under the plan, refugees in Jordan will be helped and encouraged to remain active and healthy throughout old age. But the family will remain at the centre of all efforts to assist them.

A project to aid the growing number of older refugees has been drawn up by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) with the backing of the World Health Organisation and Help Age International.

Dr. Pathi Mousa, senior medical officer for planning and statistics at UNRWA, is "very optimistic" that it will go ahead. He was part of a team of UNRWA and WHO officers and advisers who visited Jordan to investigate the needs of older refugees.

If the project gets underway and proves successful, it could be extended to the other fields in which UNRWA operates: Lebanon, Syrian Arab Republic, the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.

Family is focal point

"The main emphasis is on the role of the family as the focal point of care for the elderly. The mission was completely against institutionalised care," said Dr. Mousa.

There is an apparent need for

establishment of preventive programmes aiming at maintaining the well-being of physically active elderly and promotion of family care provided to the disabled elderly.

"We want to look after those elderly with serious health and social problems but who are mobile and can be helped with the assistance of others."

UNRWA's health department already provides basic health care for all refugees, young and old. The project is designed to give extra attention to the elderly. It envisages special training for volunteers, family members and social workers in care for the elderly and the setting up of a collection point for aids such as spectacles, hearing aids and wheel chairs.

Once funds have been raised, preliminary work can start possibly this year, allowing the project to get underway properly in 1988.

Almost 8% over 60

Statistics released by UNRWA show how much such a plan is needed: In 1986, 145,279 refugees or 7.7 per cent of the total Palestine refugee population of 2.1 million were aged over 60. In Jordan 8.1 per cent of refugees — 67,620 out of a population of 826,128 — were over the age of 60.

Dr. Mousa said the agency would continue to give priority to the provision of primary health care — particularly for the high-risk groups comprising children, pregnant women and nursing mothers. But UNRWA was suc-

cessfully controlling infectious diseases — and if the money was made available — could afford to give more attention to non-communicable diseases.

These include heart disease, diabetes and conditions such as hypertension which are found amongst the elderly.

"What is needed is a combination of health care, social and recreational activities for the elderly so that they can be as productive as possible and not frustrated," said Dr. Mousa. "One recommendation made by the team that went to Jordan is that old people could be producing something — such as traditional dresses — which could help preserve the local culture."

"The idea is to keep them mobile, productive and not feeling isolated or unwanted in the community or in their families."

Psychological strain

Dr. Mousa said the health problems of old people in the refugee community were similar to those suffered by old people worldwide. "But there is an extra psychological strain relating to their feeling that they were expelled from their homes. This feeling is very strong amongst the elderly because most of them used to work as farmers so they were very much tied to the land."

The older refugees do, however, have one advantage over many old people in the West: "Generally they are treated well because the social structure in the Arab community gives high respect to the elderly," said Dr. Mousa.

The investigating team sent to Jordan highlighted the plight of older women refugees who, by tradition, are largely restricted to their homes. The mission called for a thorough investigation of this problem.

Other measures called for by the mission were:

More research into the situation of elderly refugees; the setting up of a Disabled Aids Bank for the elderly at Baqa'a Camp, Jordan; training of community nurses in subjects such as geriatric rehabilitation, incontinence and dementia; intensive training workshops for both professionals and volunteers who care for the elderly and the establishment of a volunteer programme to help old people.

Long-term plan

The mission recommended a long-term plan including recreational activities and more professional services for the elderly. Families caring for old people should be given a short break occasionally while their elderly relatives were looked after by substitute carers.

Existing camp health centres could allocate properly trained staff at specific times to attend to the older generation. A programme to advise and support families caring for older people was recommended.

Finally, the team sent to Jordan stressed that in all these activities, the wishes of the old people themselves should be taken into consideration. In the mission were:



An elderly woman refugee living in Baqa'a camp (UNRWA photo)

Professor Gary Andrews, Flinders University of South Australia, consultant for the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office; Dr. Hana Hermanova, Regional Officer for Elderly, Disability and Rehabilitation, in the WHO Regional Office for Europe; Mr. Ken Tout, WHO temporary adviser, International Development Coordinator, Help Age International, London, and Dr. Mousa.

They were joined in Jordan by Dr. Kh. Azzam, UNRWA Field Health Officer for Jordan, and by Professor Omar Jibrin, WHO temporary advisor, Department of Psychology, University of Jordan.

Group promotes cryonics as path to immortality

By Kathleen MacLay
The Associated Press

OAKLAND, California — For Art Quafe and the other members of the American Cryonics Society, freezing bodies and brains is a logical and alluring step toward immortality.

"Our people don't die," Quafe said matter-of-factly in an interview at the spartan Trans-Time warehouse in West Oakland.

That's where two human bodies, two heads, one brain, a dog and a cat are "on ice" in cryonic suspension inside shiny stainless steel containers resembling giant silver thermos bottles.

They've been frozen with the hope of being thawed out sometime in the next couple of centuries and restored to life.

"It's hard to imagine why anyone would prefer death to the prospect of immortality," said Quafe, who works at the warehouse.

Cryonics, taken from the Greek word *kryos* — to freeze — is the low-temperature preservation of human bodies after they've been declared dead. Advocates include 150 members of the San Francisco-based American cryonics society, begun in 1969 as the Bay Area Cryonics Society. Their average age is 39. About 70 have arranged to be frozen when they die.

Among them is Dr. Paul Segall, a research physiologist and biologist at the University of California-Berkeley and Trans-Time secretary-treasurer. He believes cryobiology offers exciting possibilities for bloodless surgery, cancer therapy and organ transplants. One example he cited was a child who needs a liver transplant, but has no donor. The child could be frozen, then warmed up for a transplant when a liver has been found.

"These are the practical spinoffs of cryonics research today, and they're important," he said, predicting its most important future application will be in space medicine.

"If you're off in the asteroid belt (space), you're a long way from the medical centre," Segall said. He sees a space colonist being frozen for weeks or months until crews can bring him back to a hospital.

Several kinds of frogs were discovered recently that can tolerate up to four or five months with their bodies frozen solid, thanks in part to their production of glycerol and other cryoprotective substances. Segall said scientists eventually could duplicate this in humans. He and his associates so far have managed to remove the blood from hamsters and freeze them up to two hours before reviving them.

"People should not try to fight it," said Jackson Zinn, the society's president and attorney. "We're going down that road and it's inevitable. It's just a matter of working out the bugs (flaws)." Richard Marsh is retired San Francisco State University English and broadcasting professor. He's also a 74-year-old marathon-

er who believes cryonics will someday revive him in a younger state than he's in now. He discounts arguments that life after death is unnatural or immoral.

"Of course we're playing God. You're playing God when you do a heart transplant. You're playing God when you brush your teeth to prevent tooth decay," he said.

Among the bodies and parts frozen at the Trans-Time warehouse is the brain of 15-year-old Patricia Wilson, beaten to death in 1968.

Her father, science fiction writer Robert Wilson, explained why the family decided to have her brain frozen.

"We feel it is a long shot, but it's our way of expressing our belief in life and our rejection of the casual acceptance of murder and death in our society," he said.

Quafe said efforts to stop an autopsy on the girl failed because state law required medical examination of all homicide victims. "We decided that the best thing to do was to preserve her brain and its memories, hoping that at some future date science will find a way to reconstitute a person essentially the same as Patricia Wilson," he said.

Zinn is one of the few society members who has opted for "acorn" rather than whole body freezing. For one thing, it's cheaper.

Quafe has arranged for his freezing through life insurance coverage: "Fifty cents a day for immortality. I like the deal."

The American Cryonics Society contracts with Trans-Time to handle the mechanics of freezing people when they die. Quafe said procedures preferably begin at a hospital where the person has died.

The "patients" are put on a heart-lung resuscitation machine to keep the heart beating and blood circulating. Ice is gradually applied around the body to lower temperature and various chemicals are injected.

Next, the patient is taken to a Trans-Time laboratory where the hood is replaced with a balanced salt solution and later with one containing glycerol to minimize tissue damage caused by freezing. That takes about 12-24 hours, Quafe said.

Then it's off to the nondescript little warehouse, where the body will be stored in a cooling chest that resembles a coffin.

The body is covered with dry ice (frozen carbon dioxide) until it reaches a temperature of minus 320 degrees Fahrenheit (-196°C). Next it is covered with a foil-type material and put into a bag. Finally, it's put into suspension in a steel tube filled with liquid nitrogen.

"At that temperature, there's no measurable deterioration for eons," said Quafe. "Cryonics Society people don't feel death is the end," says Segall, who has arranged to be frozen, along with his wife and daughter. "They're not looking forward to going to the happy hunting ground (heaven)."



UNRWA subsidises some 1,400 hospital beds for all types of cases throughout its area of operations



A refugee couple from Jalazone camp near the occupied city of Jerusalem

In 'Working Girls,' the prostitutes are strictly middle class

By Dorene Internicola
Reuters

NEW YORK — Filmmaker Lizzy Borden became interested in prostitution when she found that several of her friends in the art world were in "the life."

Her new movie, "Working Girls," suggests that most practitioners of the world's oldest profession are neither high-priced call girls nor street hookers enslaved by pimps and drugs.

In fact, that fresh-faced university student who lives next door may be working as a prostitute to finance her education.

"The typical prostitute is more likely to be a student bent on graduate school, or an immigrant waiting for her green card (work permit), or a woman who works for the phone company and got tired of living in a one-room apartment," said Borden.

Borden's real name is Linda but early on people started calling her Lizzy, after the 19th century American sex murderer. "I loved it," she said, "partly because my parents hated it so much."

"Working Girls," which she wrote, directed and edited, dramatizes a day in the life of five prostitutes working in a New York brothel.

The film has opened in New York and starts wider release in major U.S. and Western European cities this month.

"The biggest surprise to me was how middle class it was," said Borden, whose research took her to hundreds of brothels.

"It's not all about women being beaten up by pimps, or having to do it because they can't relate to a lover. It's all about money. It's all about a job," she told Reuters in an interview at her spacious Manhattan artist's flat, which also served as the set for her low-budget movie.

The central character, Molly (Louise Smith), is a composite of the successful middle-class prostitute Borden found. She is clean-cut, college-educated, attractive but not astoundingly beautiful. A photographer, she works for the money to mount a show of her work.

"Most of the women I came across were 'single-time' prostitutes," said the 36-year-old filmmaker. "They do it for a year or two, to meet some economic goal, and then they move on."

In "Working Girls," the brothel is a large, clean, impersonal New York flat. The clients, known as "tricks," come and go. Service is cordial, efficient, and surrounded by hygienic rituals.

"The women always use condoms. They're not drug users — the madame make sure of that," Borden said.

Between sessions, the girls send out for food, complain about the boss, and gossip about clients.

Borden calls these prostitutes *nouveau feminist*. "The women control everything — the time, the space, the kind of sex. The men are a little embarrassed to be there. The women poke fun at them, see them as slightly pathetic."

The men in the movie barely make an impression. The prostitutes reduce them to nicknames, like "Fantasy Fred."

"It's the guys who are objectified, not the women," said Borden. "Here's a trick. Then he leaves and it's not about him anymore."

The worst problem facing prostitutes, she said, is not exploitation but detachment.

"They have to detach themselves from their bodies. So some won't kiss tricks, others hate a tongue in their ear. Each designates her private zones."

Before filming "Working Girls," Borden made her actresses go for job interviews in actual brothels — although she didn't insist that they accept the jobs. "They just didn't have the right perception of the part. They'd come to rehearsal in hot pants and net stockings — tacky, tacky, tacky."

One actress caught on when a real-life madam rejected her for chewing gum.

Borden wanted Lucy (Ellen McEliduff), the forthright, expen-

"The typical prostitute is more likely to be a student bent on graduate school, or an immigrant waiting for her green card (work permit), or a woman who works for the phone company and got tired of living in a one-room apartment."

sively dressed, sincere madam, to be familiar to any moviegoer who has contended with whims of a difficult boss.

"Seeing how these places run and the very middle-class institu-

tions they parallel fascinated me. I wanted people to say 'My God, I've had a job like this,' and then say, 'My God, that's prostitution.'"

Borden says she likes "going

into forbidden areas."

Her first film, "Born in Flames," is a fantasy about feminists taking over the world. She hopes to do a film on abortion.

A former art critic, Borden taught herself to make movies, renting a camera for \$25 a day. She made this film for only \$300,000. Although she wants to do a studio film, she hates to relinquish control.

"My distributor now controls 'Working Girls,' and it's as if making the film I was the madam and now I'm the prostitute."

"Working Girls" was screened at a prostitute rights group

Coyote (call off your old tired ethics) benefit.

"They loved it," Borden said, beaming. "The prostitutes laughed and laughed from identifying with the actresses."

She said "Mayflower Madam" Sidney Biddle Barrows, the society girl who ran a high-class "escort" service, has sent people to see it.

"You do a film and you hope it doesn't misrepresent people. I worried that middle-class prostitution would be irrelevant to street hookers. But, as one hooker who saw it said, 'Look, honey. Tricks are tricks. The work is the work.'"

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Leonard wins middleweight boxing title in historic upset

LAS VEGAS, Nevada (AP) — On a magical night in the desert, Sugar Ray Leonard recaptured some of the greatness many had thought was long gone.

Leonard, moving and mugging as he did before an eye injury prompted retirement, shook off three years of inactivity and dethroned Marvelous Marvin Hagler as World Boxing Council middleweight champion.

Never mind that it was a split decision that divided ringsiders as well as judges. The victory Monday night capped an astonishing comeback and firmly established Leonard as one of the sport's leading champions.

"This fight meant the world to me," Leonard said afterward, obviously exhausted after 12 intense rounds. "I did what I was capable of doing. I knew what I was up against but I beat him to the punch."

Leonard built up a big lead in the early rounds, then was able to withstand Hagler's pressing attack in a fight that was boxing's richest ever, attracting 15,366 fans to an outdoor arena at Caesars Palace and several million others who watched on closed-circuit television. Hagler was guaranteed \$12 million, Leonard \$11 million.

It was a fight that showed Leonard close to his vintage best in spurts, but also a fight that many thought Hagler had pulled out by finally slowing Leonard and catching him with some savage combinations in the late rounds.

"At the end of the fight he said, 'You beat me,'" said a

bitterly disappointed Hagler. "I was so happy, then they took it away. It's hard to believe."

Leonard's camp said he merely said he would always consider Hagler a champion.

Only judge Lou Filippo agreed with Hagler, scoring the fight 115-113, for the champion. Judge Dave Moretti had Leonard ahead 115-113, while judge Jojo Guerra had Leonard winning 118-110. The Associated Press had Hagler ahead 117-112.

For Leonard it was an especially sweet victory in a fight many thought he couldn't win. A 2.5-1 underdog, he rewrote a page of boxing history by beating up to 158 pounds and coming back after only one fight in five years to win his third world title.

"It wasn't the belt I wanted," Leonard insisted. "It was the fight to beat him. To me, Marvin is still the undisputed middleweight champion."

Leonard, who previous was the undisputed welterweight and WBA junior middleweight champion, is the 10th boxer in history to win three world titles. What made it even more significant is he did it against a dominant middleweight champion who had successfully defended his title 12 times.

Leonard's game plan was nothing that Hagler's camp didn't expect. He made a career based on speed, and even with the heavier weight, his only real

chance to win was to keep away from Hagler's relentless onslaught.

Hagler pressed from the outset, but was unable to cut off the ring as Leonard danced one way, then another, always keeping just out of Hagler's reach. Leonard dominated the early rounds, fighting in spurts only when he wanted to and frustrating Hagler in the process. Hagler missed repeatedly with wild punches as Leonard used his quickness to get away.

Hagler's fury showed best midway through the fifth round when he lunged at Leonard with a left hook that missed badly and turned him completely around and into the ropes. Leonard was there waiting and dashed a quick left-right to Hagler's head before he could get off the ropes.

Hagler, though, was beginning to figure Leonard out. He hurt Leonard late in the fifth round with a right hook and a left uppercut and, as Leonard slowed in the sixth round, Hagler started cutting off the ring and getting to the challenger with strong combinations.

In the seventh round, Leonard, tried to showboat by doing a quick shuffle while taunting Hagler. The shuffle wasn't quick enough, however, and ended abruptly.

Hagler continued applying constant pressure and it finally paid off big in the ninth round. The champion caught Leonard on the ropes with two strong left hooks, then backed Leonard into his own corner and flailed away.

Cup semifinalist Watford goes down to Rangers

LONDON (R) — Watford, facing an English Football Association (FA) Cup semifinal against Tottenham on Saturday, looked anything but ready when it went down 3-0 at home to Queen's Park Rangers in a league match.

The problem for Watford was again in goal, where substitute keeper Steve Sherwood was at fault on two of the three which Gary Bannister poached for QPR.

Watford's first home league defeat since Sept. 20 came just two days after Sherwood was beaten four times by Charlton in a 4-3 loss on Saturday. He is standing in for first-string goalkeeper Tony Coton, who has a broken thumb which rules him out of Saturday's clash with Spurs at Villa Park.

Sherwood flapped ineffectively at Gavin Peacock's left wing corner after 17 minutes, and when

Robbie James drilled the ball back in, Bannister struck from close range.

Sherwood was blameless on Bannister's second goal after a corner, but in injury time, he failed to hold Warren Neill's slithering low shot and virtually presented Bannister with his 14th goal of the season on a plate.

Sherwood has conceded 13 goals in his four games this season.

Watford had little to encourage it for Saturday. It left out David Bardsley, one of its heroes in the quarter-final win over League Cup champion Arsenal.

John Barnes shot against the QPR post early in the second half. But manager Graham Taylor's problems compounded when Kevin Richardson limped off, joining the absent Kenny Jackett as the main injury worries for Saturday.

Soviet, Filipino boxers lead Thai tourney

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — Soviet boxers won four bouts and Filipino fighters took two as those two teams remained the leaders after the third day of the 13th annual King's Cup Amateur Boxing Championships.

The Soviets now have 12 victories against one loss, while the Philippines has seven wins and one loss. The weeklong tournament started Saturday.

In the bantamweight division, Papian Lunkin of the Soviet Union stopped Chiang Chong Nan of Taiwan in the second round. In the lightweight division, Soviet Khachaturian Samson beat Nepal's Rana Dal Bahadur with a

knockout in the second round. Also in the lightweight division, Filipino Leopoldo Cantancio outpointed Thai Chadej Moompanich 3-2.

Soviet welterweight Ostrowskiy Alexandr outpointed Thailand's Tawewat Islam 5-0 and his compatriot, middleweight Zabolotskiy Oleg, knocked out Liu Tzu Jung of Taiwan.

Countries participating in the event include the Soviet Union, Poland, East Germany, Kenya, South Korea, Australia, Japan, Nepal, Pakistan, Norway, Denmark, India, Philippines, Taiwan, Netherlands, Brunei, Singapore and host Thailand.

Europe's big soccer guns prepare for cup competitions semifinals

LONDON (AP) — Europe's three big club soccer competitions reach the semifinal stage Wednesday night, with some famous names in action and one match generating particularly keen interest.

The Champions Cup clash between Bayern Munich and Real Madrid brings together two of Europe's soccer institutions, each with a history of success that has reaped countless trophies over the past two decades.

Real has won the Champions Cup, the premier European club

tournament, six times. Bayern has won it on three occasions.

Yet it has been 12 years since either team has managed to put its name back on the illustrious trophy, dominated in that time by English clubs.

With the English still banned by UEFA in the wake of the 1985 Haysel Stadium riots, Bayern and Real are ready to make up for lost opportunities.

Yet only one of them can make next month's final in Vienna.

Both teams go into the game at the top of their respective nation-

al leagues. Bayern heads the Bundesliga in West Germany by three points while Real is a point ahead of rival Barcelona in Spain.

Few visiting teams to Real's intimidating Bernabeu Stadium manage to come away unscathed and the Spaniards again have the advantage of playing the second leg at home.

Bayern, which thrashed another top European team, Anderlecht of Belgium, 5-0 in the first leg of their quarterfinal, will be looking for another healthy

lead to take to Spain in two

weeks' time.

Udo Lattek, Bayern's manager, has no injury problems but was still undecided Wednesday whether to field Danish striker Lars Lund or Roland Wohlfarth.

Lund has finally started scoring goals in the Bundesliga and has two in the last two games. But Wohlfarth has 10 in 15 European Cup matches and may clinch the second place in attack alongside veteran Dieter Hoernes.

"Real can be beaten, we have a real chance of reaching the final

in Vienna," Lattek said. "But we should not concede a goal at home."

Lattek said that a two-goal lead should be enough, despite Real's reputation of overturning even greater deficits.

"We are a mature team and we can preserve a 2-0 result, even in Madrid," he said.

Real's hopes have been hit badly by the unavailability of two members of its dangerous three-man strike force.

The team's Dutch coach Leo Beenhakker will have the services of the sharp Emilio Butragueno, but will be without Argentina's Jorge Valdano, who is sick, and the suspended Mexican international, Hugo Sanchez, top scorer in the Spanish League with 27 goals.

In the other Champions Cup semifinal, underdog Porto of Portugal takes on Dynamo Kiev, a side full of creative and exciting players and dubbed by some experts as the team of the 80's.

The Soviets, most of whom represented the national side at last summer's World Cup finals, won the 1986 Cupwinners Cup in flamboyant style and are three matches away from a second successive European triumph.

England downs Pakistan in Sharjah cricket

SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates (AP) — In an upset victory, England defeated an overconfident Pakistan by five wickets in the fourth match of the Sharjah Cup cricket series Tuesday.

The Pakistanis are the favorites in the four-nation Sharjah tournament which started Thursday with the participation of England, Australia, India and Pakistan. Two more matches will be played before the winner is selected on a league basis, with three games for each player.

Australia was defeated by both India and Pakistan, while India beat England in the matches played so far.

England is playing without outstanding players as Ian Botham and David Gower.

Both the England and Pakistan teams made one change in the match — Imran Khan replaced Ejaz Faqih and Gladstone Small played in the place of Phil Edmunds. England won the toss and put in Pakistan to bat.

After the loss of two quick wickets for only 11 runs, a third wicket partnership between Rameez Raja and Javed Miandad took Pakistan to 77 runs before Raja was run out.

The fifth wicket partnership of captain Imran Khan and vice captain Javed Miandad was Pakistan's highest contributing 92 runs.

Miandad was the highest scorer for Pakistan with 60 runs. The other significant scores in Pakistan's innings 217 for nine were Rameez Raja's 44 and Imran Khan's 46. David Chappel took three wickets for 38 runs.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Spanish cyclist takes Basque lead

ZARAUZ, Spain (AP) — Spanish rider Manuel Jorge Dominguez led after the first leg of the 27th Tour of the Basque country cycling race. He finished ahead of Belgium's Frank Hoste and Spaniard Enrique Carrera, covering the 198-kilometre (123-mile) distance in four hours, 57 minutes and 18 seconds. The cyclists encountered head winds and three mountain passes during the first leg on Monday. The second leg will be run between Zarauz and Mungia, a distance of 166 kilometres (103-miles).

Becker withdraws from WCT tourney

DALLAS (AP) — World Championship Tennis officials say top-seeded Boris Becker withdrew Tuesday from the 1987 tournament because of a stomach virus and alternate Kevin Curran replaced the West German in the draw. WCT Executive Director Owen Williams said he had not talked to Becker or his manager, Ion Tiriac, directly. But he told the Dallas Times Herald he was informed by the man's pro council Tuesday that Becker had withdrawn and will provide a medical certificate on his condition. Second-seeded Stefan Edberg, who plays eighth-seeded Tim Mayotte to open the finals, becomes the top seed, officials said.

Czech athlete seeks political asylum

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Czech jumper missing since last month's World Indoor Track and Field Championships has defected and is seeking political asylum in the Chicago area, an immigration spokesman said. Jan Cado was reported missing by Czech officials when the team returned from the track event in Indianapolis. A.D. Moyer, the Chicago district director for the Immigration and Naturalisation Service, will consider Cado's request for political asylum, said INS spokesman Verne Jervis. The Indianapolis news quoted unnamed sources as saying that Cado, 24, asked an American he knew met at the competition to help him defect. The American drove Cado to the home of a local government official, one source said.

Clemens rejoins Boston club

NEW YORK (R) — Boston Red Sox pitching ace Roger Clemens has rejoined the American League championship team after a 29-day protest over his salary for the 1987 major league baseball season. A Red Sox spokesman said Clemens, 24, who won 24 games and lost just four last year in his second full season while helping the team to its first league title in 11 years, returned to the Red Sox training camp in Florida on Saturday. The spokesman said it was not known when Clemens, a right-hander, would pitch his first game of the season. He said Clemens, who left camp on March 6 when negotiations on a new contract broke down, would play under the terms of his previous agreement while his agent and Red Sox General Manager Lou Gorman "work out a contract that is suitable."

Elton John to keep Watford

WATFORD, England (AP) — Rock music star Elton John plans to keep his controlling interest in the Watford soccer club, a spokeswoman said Tuesday. Sharon O'Connor, press officer for Rocket Records, said John remained "football crazy" and denied reports that he planned to get rid of his £3.5 million (\$5.6 million) stake in the First Division Club. Several London-based national tabloids said Tuesday that the millionaire singer, who has been dogged by personal problems, was to sell his controlling interest to another Watford fan. But O'Connor called the reports "a load of old rubbish." "Football is his second passion to music," she said. "Whenever he goes on tour he spends a fortune ringing in and watching the games."

Liedholm replaced as Milan coach

MILAN, Italy (R) — Nils Liedholm, the Swedish coach who guided AC Milan to the Italian First Division soccer title in 1979, has been replaced by his former deputy Fabio Capello. Liedholm, whose links with AC Milan go back to his arrival as a star player in 1949, has been made technical manager, the club said in a statement Tuesday. Capello will take charge of the team for the remaining five weeks of the Italian league season. The changes mean Liedholm, 64, will no longer sit on the Milan bench, club sources said. Liedholm was idolized when he played for Milan following his move to Italy. He became known as "Il Conte" (the count) for his clever midfield play and won four championship medals during his Italian playing career from 1949 to 1961.

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Muhammed Mhalla
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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets on Tuesday.

One sterling	1.6190/6200	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3073/78	Canadian dollar
	1.8215/25	West German marks
	2.0555/65	Dutch guilders
	4.5110/20	Swiss francs
	1297/1298	Belgian francs
	6.0575/0625	French francs
	145.10/20	Italian lire
	6.3425/75	Japanese yen
	6.8150/8200	Swedish crowns
	6.8700/50	Norwegian crowns
	420.20/70	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold		U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities drifted lower after the easier opening on Wall Street, but the London market was depressed from the onset on lack of interest and a feeling that Monday's gains were overdone, dealers said.

Much of Tuesday's business was inter-professional, but dealers noted that despite Tuesday's falls and low volume the market still had a firm, although cautious, undertone. At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 index was down 8.1 points at 1,981.5 compared with an opening 1,987.4.

Concern over the possibility of a trade war with Japan, although less pronounced, provided further caution.

On Monday, the Japanese Finance Ministry made moves to try and dispel fears of a trade war by saying it would help to expand the Tokyo stock exchange membership to facilitate foreign membership.

However, British Corporate Affairs Minister Michael Howard has told Japan to resolve the row over Cable and Wireless' shareholding in a new Japanese telecommunications company or face an abrupt deterioration in trade relations.

Cable and Wireless, which has been at the centre of the trade row, was up 2p at 372.

Swiss-Arab trade drops

GENEVA (OPECNA) — Swiss exports to Gulf Arab countries dropped 31 per cent in value last year in the wake of falling oil prices, which hit the region's purchasing power, and the appreciation of the Swiss franc against other currencies.

Switzerland sold \$949 million worth of goods to the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) in 1986, compared with sales of \$1.38 billion the previous year.

Over the same period, the European country's imports from the region declined in value by 50 per cent, from \$259 million to \$129 million.

The sharp contraction in trade was a focal point of the 13th annual assembly of the Swiss-Arab chamber of commerce which ended here last week.

The "worries and hopes" affecting the relationship between Europe and the Arab World were outlined by the main guest speaker, Dr. Bishara Kader, director of the Arab Studies Centre at Belgium's Louvain University.

About 130 officials from Swiss and Arab commercial and financial companies, together with diplomatic representatives, attended the gathering.

Money troubles endanger 2,000 Yugoslav companies

BELGRADE (R) — More than 2,000 Yugoslav firms employing almost 600,000 people made losses last year and about 200 could face early liquidation, a member of the presidency of the Confederation of Trade Unions of Yugoslavia (CTUY) said Tuesday.

The official, Mr. Dusan Koceljovic, told Reuters the information was presented at a trade union leaders meeting held in Belgrade Monday.

A bankruptcy law is due to come into effect in July under which loss-making firms will have six months to recover their 1986 losses. Such firms will have to reduce their wages to the minimum level and those which fail to recover face liquidation.

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Incomes decline in many countries

WASHINGTON (AP) — Many of the world's poorest countries have been getting poorer and some of the rich ones have too, according to figures made public by the World Bank.

Representatives of the 151 governments that own the bank and its sister organization, the International Monetary Fund, opened a week of meetings at the fund's headquarters Monday.

The bank at the same time released the 1987 World Bank Atlas, which brings its income figures up to date through 1985.

It shows 2.3 billion people, nearly half the population of the world, living in 35 countries where the average income per person was \$400 a year or less.

India, with a population of 765 million, had a per capita income of \$250 in 1985. That figure represents an increase of 44 per cent since 1973.

The traditionally prosperous industrial countries continued to do well.

The average American's income rose from \$15,540 in 1984 to \$16,400 in 1985. The average Japanese income went up to \$11,330 from \$10,650.

But South Africa had a drop of four per cent, and Irish incomes fell slightly as well, from \$4,980 to \$4,840.

In West Germany, the average income rose by 2.4 per cent in domestic terms. But translated into terms of the U.S. dollar, which was comparatively high that year, there was a decline

from \$11,160 to \$10,940. Since then, the price of the dollar has dropped considerably and the next West German figure should show an increase in dollar terms.

Among the countries that have grown poorer is Jamaica, where the average citizen earns \$710 a year. The Jamaican income figure has been going down by 3.5 per cent a year since 1973.

Income declines have been experienced by 36 countries, nearly all in Africa and Latin America.

In most communist-ruled countries the bank says it does not have a data available.

In China, the average income is \$310 a year for a population of 1.04 billion. According to the figures the Chinese government has given the bank, average income has been growing at the exceptionally high rate of 5.6

per cent a year since 1973.

In many countries which have seen declines, things got worse between 1984 and 1985. Argentina, for example, where the drop averaged two per cent a year between 1973 and 1985, saw a decline of 5.3 per cent in the last of those years.

Ethiopia is one of the poorest countries of all, with an average income of only \$110. That had been declining at a rate of 0.4 per cent a year. In 1985, the decline was 7.6 per cent.

The drop in the price of oil hit some Middle East countries hard: The living standard of the average Saudi Arabian had been rising modestly over the years. In 1985, it dropped from \$10,980 to \$8,860. In Kuwait the average declined from \$16,720 to \$14,270.

In these countries, much of the oil income is received and spent by governments on public services.

Poland to privatise state companies; Castro ridicules free market forces

STOCKHOLM (R) — Poland will soon offer shares to private citizens in several state companies under major reforms to rejuvenate its socialist economy, and it might even open a stock exchange one day, a Polish official said Monday.

The economy had to be made more responsive to market forces, chief Polish government spokesman, Mr. Jerzy Urban, told a news conference in Stockholm.

Mr. Urban said that under reforms to be unveiled in a few weeks' time, "the whole leadership of the Polish economy and its management methods will be replaced."

Private individuals would be offered shares in state firms to stimulate a new entrepreneurship, and state subsidies to industry would be cut by 15 per cent this budget year to force inefficient enterprises into bankruptcy.

Asked whether the share offerings meant Poland planned to start a fully-fledged stock exchange, Mr. Urban replied:

"Plans to start a classic stock market like London's have not been included in existing projects, but if there is a demand for it and if it proves necessary or suitable for the good of the Polish economy, we would not refrain from it."

There were "no doctrinaire barriers standing in the way of working out new motors of economic change," Mr. Urban said.

The essence of the reforms was to "base the Polish economy on the rational rules of the market."

He gave no examples of which state companies might end up being co-owned by private individuals, but said no branch of the economy would be excluded from the reforms.

"This definitely means stepping out of the system of centrally-subsidised industry," he said.

"We shall try to cut subsidies by 15 per cent this year ... so that the outdated and unprofitable parts of industry go bankrupt."

Mr. Urban said the planned Polish measures were convergent with reforms in the Soviet Union under Soviet leader, Mr. Mikhail

Gorbachev. "They will make future cooperation between two similar economies easier in future," he said.

He was asked if the conversion to a market economy would not represent an ideological setback for Poland's communist leaders.

"The role of socialism is to distribute prosperity — not poverty," he said.

Mr. Urban said the government should in future stop managing enterprises and concentrate on conducting economic policy instead — "we want to destroy all the constraints to economic growth."

But he expected resistance to reform, saying that a conservative apparatus was on principle opposed to privatisation, whatever benefits it offered. "Managers cannot have their habits and ways of thinking changed overnight."

"We know economic reforms must be coordinated with political ones although Polish society is at present far more interested in material living standards than in politics," he said, stressing that any political reform had to be gradual.

Lufthansa buys 2 Airbus planes

COLOGNE, West Germany (AP) — The West German airline, Lufthansa, has placed orders for two A310-300 jets from the European aircraft consortium Airbus Industrie, a company statement said last week.

Lufthansa gave no price for the purchase, saying that replacement parts orders and exact specifications remained to be set.

The new orders will bring to 34 the number of A300 and A310 aircraft in Lufthansa's fleet. Deliveries are scheduled for late 1988 and early 1989.

Airbus is a joint venture between Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm of West Germany, Aerospatiale of France, Casa of Spain and British Aerospace.

U.N. report describes Africa's 1986 economic performance as disappointing

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Africa's economic performance in 1986 was disappointing and prospects for 1987 are bleak, according to a United Nations report made public Tuesday.

The report, prepared by the U.N. Economic Commission for Africa and the African Development Bank said: "Despite the determination by African countries to undertake policy and institutional reforms, the economic growth for the region was disappointing in 1986. The combined gross domestic product in real terms increased by only 1.2 per cent."

Performances varied considerably, with oil exporting countries experiencing a decline of 0.3 per

cent in their gross domestic product (GDP) and non-oil exporters recording four-per-cent growth.

The continent's inflation rate rose to 9.8 per cent last year from 8.9 in 1985, the report said.

Agricultural output increased three per cent because of good weather and improved incentive schemes, and manufacturing improved by four per cent.

The decline in oil prices and falling world demand for minerals last year led to an estimated 28.7 per cent fall in export earnings, turning a \$5.9 billion surplus in 1985 into a \$7.1 billion deficit in 1986.

The report said prospects for 1987 were bleak with depressed

markets for Africa's primary commodities.

"Trade and current account deficits are likely to remain large, though below 1986 levels. The volume of net resources and inflows is expected to stagnate at 1986 level," it said.

Agricultural output would grow again this year and the manufacturing sector would be hampered by shortages of imported raw materials, the report forecast.

It advised African governments to curb increases in public spending and subsidies to public enterprises, noting that rapid growth in subsidies and public spending had not brought in enough cash and often led to deficits.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Today finds all sorts of peculiar conditions in effect. Some sudden events will occur as well as some limitations sprouting up in the path of your current desires.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Be sure to work at a measured pace. Show that you are clever and resourceful, especially tonight.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Don't do anything that can irritate those you dwell with. Don't permit strangers to enter your home.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You are undecided on just how to handle correspondence and communication, so do not act hastily now.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Some opportunity to make more money may have a flaw in it. Don't act on impulse.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Stumbling blocks may be in the way of gaining personal wishes. Friends cannot be helpful to you until tonight.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You have to be more persistent if you want to gain a personal wish. Generosity can be a fine virtue for you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Consider many ways to show gratitude for a friend's loyal assistance. Be careful in both motion and speech.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Use much care and caution where worldly and civic matters are concerned. An influential person can't help you now.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) A new outlet requires further study before you can get into it successfully.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You are tempted to go off on a tangent, but it would be wiser to handle business details intelligently.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You are desirous of getting along better with an associate, but wait until evening when you get the right idea.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You have excellent ideas for improving your environment. Study what this will cost before doing anything.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he, or she, will look at everything from an optimistic view. This one, however, is apt to procrastinate too long before arriving at decisions, so teach him, or her, to speed up this process so that big success is attainable. Give as fine an education as you can.

THE Daily Crossword By Mark Oehl

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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved.

1 Across: Native quarter of Aghem

7 Across: Narrow valleys

14 Across: Resembling mountains

15 Across: Lites

17 Across: Tropical mixed drink

18 Across: Heavenly beings

19 Across: Evergreen

21 Across: Stimulation

22 Across: Tasty

24 Across: Seafire

25 Across: Deadlock

30 Across: Aircraft wing flap

32 Across: Finally

38 Across: Demands

39 Across: To this

Split appears imminent in S. Korea's opposition party

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — A split in South Korea's major opposition party appeared imminent Tuesday after its two largest factions agreed "in principle" to secede to form a new party.

"We understand that the two Kims (Kim Young-Sam and Kim Dae-Jung) will formally announce the decision (to secede) on Wednesday," one party source said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The source said the two Kims met twice on Monday and agreed they should split from the main opposition New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP). The Kims cited ongoing factional wrangling over the party's leadership and strategy on proposed constitutional amendments.

The two Kims, South Korea's best-known dissidents, head the so-called "mainstream group" which controls nearly four-fifths of 90 lawmakers affiliated with the New Korea Democratic Party.

If the split materialises, the NKDP, which merged as the largest opposition force against the government of President Chun Doo-Hwan in the Feb. 12, 1985 general elections, would be little more than a splinter group.

A party formed by the two Kims likely would be more united and take a harder line in opposing the ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP).

The NKDP plunged into confusion over the weekend after two ranking party lawmakers — Lee Taek-Hee and Lee Chul-Seung — challenged the two Kims' leadership and voiced support for policies of President Chun's Democratic Justice Party.

The two Kims, supported by party President Lee Min-Won,

were pushing disciplinary actions against the two Lees, who they charged had undermined the party's strategy on constitutional amendments.

The trouble worsened Saturday when some 300 supporters of Lee Taek-Hee began a sit-in at the party's headquarters in downtown Seoul, demanding that the two Kims stop "meddling" in party affairs and retire from politics.

Mr. Lee sought a court injunction to bar Kim Young-Sam from interfering in party affairs, charging that the 59-year party adviser had collected a large sum of money from political aspirants for the 1985 parliamentary elections.

The two Kims charges that the current trouble was part of a government manoeuvre to defame the NKDP and block its national convention, scheduled for May.

"This is none other than a government intelligence scheme

to block the emergence of a strong opposition," said Kim Young-Sam, who reportedly is seeking the party presidency at the May convention.

"We have no choice but to secede from the NKDP because the May convention is realistically impossible to convene," said one source close to Kim who declined to be named.

The emergence of a new harder line political party led by the two Kims could have a significant impact on South Korea's current political impasse caused by two conflicting plans for a constitutional amendment on presidential elections.

President Chun's ruling party favours a parliamentary-cabinet system with a strong prime minister and a largely ceremonial head of state, while the two Kims advocate a direct, popular election of the president, arguing that the cabinet system heavily favours the ruling camp.

Pope, in Argentina, praises new democracy

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — Pope John Paul II praised Argentina's newly restored democracy and said the country was living "a privileged moment."

But the Pope also brought up the spectre of this country's political repression in the 1970s, saying authorities are obliged to promote human rights despite "situations of extreme difficulties, avoiding the frequent temptation of answering violence with violence."

Pope John Paul arrived Monday after a violence-marred, six-

day tour of Chile. It is the second time the Pontiff has visited this nation of 31 million since he became head of the world's 840 million Roman Catholics.

The Pope told President Raul Alfonsín and political leaders at the government house the country was on the road to recovery.

"You have the vigour of a young nation that has accumulated a rich historical experience," the Pope said, alluding to the return to democracy in 1983 after seven years of military rule. "This is a privileged moment for the country."

Jakarta calls for military alertness in poll campaign

JAKARTA (R) — Indonesian Armed Forces Chief General Benny Murdani has told top military commanders to step up alertness for extremist threats while working for the success of elections later this month, it was reported Tuesday.

The military chiefs are holding a top-level meeting in Jakarta to review how programmes to boost efficiency and preparedness of the 280,000-strong military were being implemented, an armed forces spokesman Tuesday told Reuters.

The meeting is being held in the middle of election campaigning across Indonesia, a giant archipelago of 168 million people which has between the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

At the opening of the conference Monday, Gen. Murdani spelt out six objectives for the military during the year, including maintaining security and ensuring the success of the parliamentary elections which will be held on April 23, the armed forces newspaper Angkatan Bersenjata reported Tuesday.

The armed forces have played a major role in governing Indonesia since helping to achieve independence from the Dutch after

the World War II.

Gen. Murdani said the armed forces should step up alertness for the latent dangers of Communism, and extremist groups from both left and right, the paper said.

In a separate speech on Saturday to officials on a national defence course, Gen. Murdani said that in view of the upheavals which threatened the country's unity after a 1965 Communist coup attempt, it was clear Indonesia did not just need a military for national defence, but armed forces which could face domestic threats as well.

Indonesia's armed forces are in the middle of a major restructuring designed to increase efficiency, slim down command structures and bring younger men into top posts.

The election is for 400 seats in the 500-member National Assembly. The other 100 seats are reserved for military appointees. President Suharto's ruling Golkar Party is expected to win 70 per cent of the vote.

The campaign has been marked by calls for greater student rights and more political freedom in this carefully-controlled South-East Asian state.

200 Sikhs arrested after attacks on Punjab stores

NEW DELHI (R) — Punjab police have arrested more than 200 Sikh fundamentalist youths after crowds sacked stores selling liquor, cigarettes and meat, the United News of India reported.

The arrests Monday were a preventive measure after more than 15 liquor, cigarette and meat stores were burned since Sunday, Punjab Police Chief Julius Ribeiro was quoted as saying by the news agency.

He did not say how many actual attackers had been arrested but said the police offensive was not complete.

Sikhs consider liquor, cigarettes and meat sacrilegious. Barber shops also have been burned in the latest round of attacks, as the Sikh faith forbids the cutting of hair or beards.

The attacks were the part of the latest terror campaign by Sikh separatists to drive Hindus from the Sikh-majority state. Killings by suspected terrorists have become a regular occurrence.

The Punjab government cur-

rently is trying to woo back hundreds of Hindu families who have fled because of the increase in terrorist attacks.

"The use of violence against new groups (liquor vendors) could lead to a fresh wave of migration from Punjab," the Hindu newspaper reported Monday.

At least 30 per cent of cigarette and liquor shops already have closed in rural Punjab, where liquor trade is a major revenue earner, the Telegraph reported from Chandigarh on Sunday.

Mr. Ribeiro says police will shoot shop attackers on sight and extra security will be provided to more than 2,300 liquor shops.

The Punjab government earned more than \$1.9 million from taxes on liquor sales last year, the Sunday Mail reported.

In a separate development the Indian government appointed a commission Monday to investigate the use of a U.S. detective agency to look into foreign financial holdings of prominent Indians.

France's 'red billionaire' dies

PARIS (R) — Jean-Baptiste Doumenq, a French Communist who built a vast fortune trading agricultural products with the Soviet Bloc, has died after a long illness, aged 67.

The "red billionaire" as he was called, was a key figure in Franco-Soviet trade and a controversial one, with his sales of huge quantities of subsidised European Community surplus butter, beef and other foodstuffs to the Soviet Bloc.

Burly, outspoken, and ready to use strong language to voice his opinions, he had been in the

Communist Party since his teens. But he enjoyed a wealthy lifestyle, owning a stable of racehorses, an executive jet and a large estate in south western France.

When asked how he reconciled his politics with his capitalist business dealings, he would say with a grin that they helped swell party coffers.

The son of poor farmworkers, he left primary school to become a shepherd. "We lived in appalling conditions — it was a shame and an affront," he recalled.

Indonesian plane 'hit by down draft' before crash

JAKARTA (R) — An Indonesian airliner that plunged onto a runway killing 28 people was hit by a sudden down draft in a thunderstorm and had defective controls, the Transport Ministry said Tuesday.

Garuda Indonesia Airline President Reyn Lumenta told newsmen earlier that his company's plane had been hit by lightning as it was preparing to land at Polonia International Airport in Medan, north Sumatra, last Saturday.

A ministry statement distributed to newsmen did not mention lightning, and quoted the pilot of the doomed DC-9 airliner as saying the plane suddenly lost altitude in a "down draft," within sight of the runway.

Pilot Sumirat, who was interviewed at his hospital bed by Transport Minister Rusmin Nurdjadin on Sunday, said the plane's pitch, yaw and roll controls would not work when he tried to take

corrective action, the ministry said.

The plane, carrying 37 passengers and eight crew on a flight from Banda Aceh in northern Sumatra, then plunged into high-voltage power lines dragging behind it a one-tonne power transformer and cables, the statement said.

The plane veered into a canal embankment, sheered off a wing, and tumbled onto the airfield in an explosive ball of fire, the statement said.

Mr. Nurdjadin told newsmen that an investigation team from the Civil Air Transportation Division and the National Intelligence Agency had not concluded a probe. He said reports on what caused the crash would be "pure conjecture" at this point.

Lumenta on Sunday quoted a transcript of the pilot's last message to the airport control tower as saying: "I have been hit by lightning and losing altitude."

COLUMNS 7&8

American wins Hemingway prize

PARIS (R) — American novelist and short-story writer Peter Taylor was named winner of the \$50,000 Ritz Paris Hemingway Award — one of the literary world's richest awards. Taylor won for his novel *A Summers To Memphis*, judged the best novel published in English last year by a 10-man international panel of authors. Other finalists for the prize were Austrian Peter Handke's *Across* and Canadian Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*. Jury-member William Styron, author of *Sophie's Choice*, said of Taylor: "He's one of our best writers, but one of the lesser-known ones. He deserves to be better known and we hope this prize will help with that." Taylor, 70, was born in Tennessee and has spent most of his life as a university literature professor. Since 1967 he was taught at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

Treasures from countess' villa auctioned

FLORENCE, Italy (AP) — Sotheby's began auctioning the arts works and furnishings from the late American countess Mona Bismarck's villa on the fashionable island of Capri. The auction of some 900 pieces began on schedule after a last minute go-ahead from the Italian Culture Ministry. Earlier, Italian authorities had threatened to block the sale on grounds that the villa was a national monument. In the first two sessions, total sales reached a figure of about 1.68 billion lire (\$1.3 million), said Sotheby's spokesman Lucian Comoy. Among the items auctioned in the first sessions were a pair of Chinese paintings that went for 185 million lire (\$142,000). Comoy said. Other items up for sale were two giant paintings by the Spanish artist Jose Maria Sert, French and Italian furniture, silverware, carpets, "Even pots and pans," he said. The countess, who died in Paris in 1984 at the age of 84, began visiting Capri, an island in the Bay of Naples, in the 1930s. Her third husband, U.S. industrialist Harrison Williams, built for her "Villa Fortino" on the scenic site where Emperor Tiberius had a palace overlooking the sea.

Fire sweeps through famous brewery

MUNICH, West Germany (R) — More than 150 firemen fought to control a huge fire at the brewery which serves Munich's world-famous Hofbrauhaus Beer Hall. City officials said the blaze started in a former malthouse and tore through the four-storey 19th century building, made almost entirely of wood. Three firemen were reported injured fighting the blaze, which also destroyed a restaurant in the complex. The Bavarian state-owned brewery is located in the city centre but is about two kilometres from the Hofbrauhaus, famous for its annual Oktoberfest Beer Festival. Police in loudspeaker vans toured the area where the brewery is sited advising residents to stay indoors and close windows to avoid inhaling fumes.

WHO employees smash ashtrays

GENEVA (R) — Employees of the World Health Organisation (WHO) smashed ashtrays at a ceremony marking the start of a ban on smoking at WHO headquarters. The ban went into effect Tuesday, the annual celebration of World Health Day. Dr. Halifan Mahler, director-general of WHO, told a crowd of about 100 employees at a brief ceremony: "As the world's conscience on health, we have decided to give a small example." Dr. Mahler said about 1.5 million people die of smoking-related causes every year, including 500,000 in the United States, an estimate he said he considered conservative. There would be no sanctions against those of WHO's 1,500 employees who defied the ban, he added.

Bald people apply for hair-restoring test

ROTTERDAM (R) — Thousands of bald Dutchmen have rushed to join a hospital's tests on a hair restorer but most will be disappointed because only 200 will be chosen to smear the gel on their heads, hospital officials have said. They said doctors were amazed when about 8,000 men answered their request for human guinea pigs aged 18 to 49 to take part in the experiment on a drug that reduces blood pressure and appears to stimulate hair growth as a side effect.

Specialist pinpoints cardiac dangers

LUND, Sweden (R) — Keeping fit, eating well and banning cigarettes may not be the only vital factors in preventing a heart attack, according to a report published by a Swedish cardiac specialist. John Franzen, a heart specialist in this southern Swedish university town, said he had pinpointed a lack of high density lipoprotein (HDL), a natural defence against sclerosis, to be equally crucial to the incidence of cardiac illness. Franzen said the traditional approach to curing heart disease was to reduce cholesterol in the blood but that medication which increased HDL levels would be an equally effective measure. He said he had drawn his conclusions after studies of 270 heart attack patients over a period of five years. HDL "mops up" excess cholesterol, which is produced by a surplus of fatty foods and lack of exercise, Franzen said. A medical team in the western city of Gothenburg last week said they had isolated two genes that were keys to the hereditary development of heart disease, the first step towards developing a new range of preventive medication.

5 royal cousins entered mental hospital

LONDON (R) — Five of Queen Elizabeth's cousins were admitted to a mental hospital outside London in 1941 and three of them are still alive, according to health officials. A hospital spokeswoman on Monday said one of the British monarch's first cousins, listed as dead since 1963 in a guide to the British aristocracy, was in the Royal Earlswood Hospital in the county of Surrey, south west of London. The woman, Katherine Bowes-Lyon, 60, is a niece of Queen Mother Elizabeth, whose maiden name was Bowes-Lyon. Katherine's sister, Nerissa, died in the same government-owned hospital last year, aged 67. The Queen Mother, president of the Royal Society for Mentally Handicapped Children and Adults (MENCAP), found out five years ago that her two nieces were alive, MENCAP General Secretary Sir Brian Rix said. He told reporters the Queen Mother had believed both sisters were dead. On learning the truth, she was "very supportive and has been supportive ever since," he added. A Surrey health authority spokesman told reporters that three other sisters, Queen Elizabeth's second cousins, were admitted to the hospital at the same time as the Bowes-Lyon sisters. Two, Etheldreda Fane, 64, and Idonea Fane, 72, were sharing the same ward as Katherine Bowes-Lyon. The spokeswoman said the sisters "are aware of a long kinship, but they have a mental age of young children and a memory that comes and goes." The third sister, Rosemary Fane, died in 1972.

Soldiers re-create battle of Shiloh

SHILOH, Tennessee (AP) — The echo of musket fire swept across rolling fields as 6,000 civil war buffs transformed into civil war soldiers staged a remake of one of the bloodiest battles on American soil. About 40,000 spectators paid \$3 a head to watch the show, the reenactment of a two-day fight 125 years ago. The real battle began on April 6, 1862, when 40,000 Confederate troops led by Gen. Albert Sidney Johnson surprised an equal number of Union soldiers under the command of Gen. Ulysses S. Grant. By the time the battle ended, more than 100,000 men had joined the fight, and 23,000 of them were killed or wounded. At the time it was the largest battle fought in the United States. The civil war was fought after the South seceded from the nation, in response to various issues including a federal mandate to end the enslavement of blacks. Sunday's event was organised by the Shiloh Reenactment Association Inc., which said requirements for proper period dress and weapons were strictly enforced. The soldiers, wearing replicas of civil war uniforms, were armed with 1860s-era weapons or replicas. Cavalrymen provided their own mounts. Reenactment organisers had to deal with matters more mundane than combat, such as parking and traffic control.

Shultz to take 'precautions' during Moscow trip

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State George Shultz may ride out to the airport and use his U.S. air force jetliner to communicate with President Ronald Reagan or to huddle with aides when he is in the Soviet Union next week.

Mr. Shultz also may use a trailer, equipped with special "anti-bug" devices, if he is unsure that at least part of the U.S. embassy in Moscow is free of concealed Soviet listening equipment.

The precautionary measures are under consideration, an American official said Monday, because of uncertain security at

the U.S. embassy after the apparent penetration by Soviet agents.

The official, who requested anonymity, said Mr. Shultz had considered postponing his talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze immediately after a U.S. Marine guards at the Moscow embassy were arrested and charged with espionage.

But, the official said, "the secretary feels the overwhelming importance of the U.S.-Soviet relationship and arms control is simply overriding and the decision was made to go ahead. That doesn't mean it could not be reversed."

Reagan urges Soviets to end support for 'dictatorships'

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan has called on the Soviet Union to show its sincerity in seeking improved relations by ending what he called its attempts "to install dictators" throughout the world.

In a speech Monday to the Canadian parliament, Mr. Reagan welcomed reforms in Soviet society introduced by Kremlin chief Mikhail Gorbachev but added:

"The surest sign that the Soviet Union truly wants better relations, that it truly wants peace, would be to end its global strategy to impose one-party dictatorships — allow the people of this world to determine their own futures, in liberty and peace."

Mr. Reagan also pledged to seek a treaty to eliminate medium-range missiles in Europe that would strengthen allied security and could not be circumvented by an imbalance between East and West in shorter-range missiles.

Mr. Reagan returned to Washington Monday night after a

24-hour visit to Canada during which he made conciliatory statements on two issues dividing the North American neighbours, acid rain and sovereignty over the north west passage.

He promised in his speech to parliament Monday to consider Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's proposal for a bilateral accord to control acid rain, caused by polluting over the Canadian border and damaging lakes and wildlife.

The president said he and Mr. Mulroney agreed to "inject new impetus" into talks on Canada's claim to sovereignty over the north west passage.

But officials of both countries acknowledged there remained a wide gap between the positions of Canada and the United States on the two issues.

White House Chief of Staff Howard Baker told reporters: "We're not committing ourselves to negotiate a treaty (on acid rain). (Reagan's pledge) is a vehicle for negotiations."

Thatcher: Gorbachev sincere in wanting Afghan pullout

LONDON (R) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has said she believes Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is sincere in saying he wants to pull his country's troops out of Afghanistan.

Mrs. Thatcher, speaking at a dinner on Monday night for visiting Pakistani Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo, said she based her impression on talks she had last week in Moscow with the Kremlin leader.

But the Soviet Union, she said, did not appear ready to take the necessary steps to withdraw its troops, estimated by Western experts to number about 115,000.

The Afghan issue has become the focal point of Mr. Junejo's eight-day visit to Britain. Pakistan, home to three million Afghan refugees, supports Afghan guerrillas fighting the Communist Kabul government and the Soviet troops.

Britain and Pakistan agreed at

talks Monday that the war, which began after the Soviet intervention in 1979, would not end until Moscow allowed Afghanistan to have a non-aligned government.

Meanwhile, the leader of Afghanistan's ruling Communist Party Monday invited rebels to join a debate on a new constitution, Kabul Radio reported.

The radio, monitored in Islamabad, quoted party leader Najib as saying a draft of the new constitution contained principle of national reconciliation and a programme for peace.

Addressing a constitutional commission, he asked it to organise a national debate on the draft.

"Those on the opposite side can also take part in the debate, give their views and proposals and criticise," he said in reference to guerrillas fighting his government.

U.S. urged to end foreign aid budgeting by country

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — A senior member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee has called for an end to Congress' practice of designating parts of the U.S. foreign aid budget for specific countries.

House of Representatives and Senate committees are drafting a new foreign aid bill for 1988 and 1989, with leaders in both chambers predicting that a new round of severe cuts will be needed to help Congress meet its deficit reduction goals for the year.

The Senate bill proposes budgeting foreign aid by regions, rather than by specific countries, and focusing aid on priorities such as health, agriculture, education and infrastructure.

The effect of legislation proposed Monday by Republican Senator Nancy Kassebaum would be to shift some of the burden of a shrinking foreign aid programme onto Israel, which now gets

the lion's share of U.S. aid because of its political weight in Congress.

Any move to cut aid to Israel would automatically cause a furor, and Sen. Kassebaum said she did not anticipate immediate success in the effort. Rather, she characterised the bill as an attempt to stimulate debate about the wisdom of the way Congress allocates money for aid projects around the world.

Meanwhile a prominent member of Congress Monday proposed that the United States levy a service fee on allied exports to help pay for the defence of Western Europe and Japan.

Representative Patricia Schroeder, a senior member on the House of Representatives Armed Services Committee, suggested as an example a six per cent surcharge on imported Japanese Subaru cars.

2 bodies recovered after New York bridge collapse

AMSTERDAM, New York (AP) — Rescue workers have spotted one body and recovered two others from a rain-swollen creek where a major highway bridge collapsed, killing at least four people.

Up to 400 feet (122 metres) of the New York state Thruway Bridge fell Sunday near this town 35 miles (56 kilometres) west of Albany, the state capital.

At least three cars and a truck plummeted 80 feet (27 metres) into Scholastic Creek.

A state police helicopter spotted a body floating in the Mohawk River about four miles (6.4 km) from the scene, said state police spokesman Robert Armet. The creek empties into the Mohawk. Armet said he did not know when the body would be recovered.

Biggest Tamil group denies revenge killings

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lanka's biggest Tamil rebel group Tuesday denied government reports that it had killed more than 250 members of rival groups in revenge for an assassination attempt on one of its leaders.

"This is just government propaganda and attempts by Sri Lankan authorities to discredit our organisation," Anton Balasingham of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) told Reuters from the south Indian city of Madras.

The government said Monday the LTTE began to slaughter rival separatist guerrillas in the Jaffna peninsula after a grenade attack on March 30 seriously wounded Sathiasivampillai Krishnakumar, the LTTE's Jaffna commander.

"We don't have any evidence yet whether rival groups were responsible. Even (government)

agents could be involved," Balasingham said.

He said 20 LTTE guerrillas and 18 from three rival groups were killed in a clash in Jaffna on the same day.

"The 18, held captive by us for several months, tried to break free, taking advantage of the confusion caused by the grenade attack," he said.

"In the ensuing battle there were casualties. This is the only incident so far," Balasingham added.

He denied rumours that Krishnakumar had been smuggled to south India for treatment and that one of his legs was amputated there.

The LTTE field commander was recovering in Jaffna hospital from leg wounds and paid a brief visit to the LTTE headquarters nearby on Sunday, Balasingham said.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OWEN SEARAT
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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ AKQ10 ♠ A88 ♠ AJ105
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♣ Pass 4 ♣ Pass

What action do you take?
A.—For his jump to game at this vulnerability, partner should have a suit that will play for only one loser. Your control cards should take care of all partner's side-suit losers, so we would opt for six spades. However, if you want to give partner a bit of leeway, you bid five diamonds.

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ A ♠ KJ9 ♠ 109762 ♠ KJ7
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass
2 ♣ ?

What action do you take?
A.—Now that you know the opponents do not have a refuge in the spade suit, the time has come to double. Clearly, this double is for penalties. Had you wanted to hear from partner, you would have doubled one heart for takeout.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ Q7 ♠ AQ10952 ♠ 876
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♣ Dble
Pass 2 ♣ ?

What do you bid now?
A.—This is a situation where partner can judge the situation better than you. He knows the approximate strength of your hand from your two-over-one response, but his opening bid can have quite a wide range. Pass, and let him decide on the best action for your side.

Q.4—East-West, vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ A ♠ Q87 ♠ AQ10642 ♠ 93
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ 1 ♠ 1 ♠ ?
What action do you take?

A.—Since the opponents have a lot of black cards, some preventive action is called for. We suggest four diamonds, but won't quibble with five. Four diamonds appeals more because should partner go on to game, we think he might make it.

Q.5—East-West, vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 8 ♠ A ♠ AQ10942 ♠ 852
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North East
Pass Pass 1 ♠ 2 ♣ ?
What do you bid now?

A.—Just because you are a passed hand and not vulnerable does not give you the right to stick your neck out and invite the ax. There is a danger of a misfit, and hiding three diamonds might force three spades from partner, and from there on it could become bloody.

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ 8 ♠ KQJ10763 ♠ 854 ♠ 8
Partner opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you respond?
A.—This is no time for shilly-shallying around. Bid four hearts, firstly because you might make it, and secondly because it is quite possible that the opponents have a playable spot in spades and pre-emptive action by you could keep them out of it.